THE CURRENT SAUCE

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L.A. 'ROXX' Freshman Class



Demon Days began shortly after the campus move-in. Events included a concert by '80s tribute band L.A. ROXX, Freshman Convocation and the President's Picnic.

Photos by Alec Horton and NSU Photolab



Students parked across from the NSU Police Station in a lot designated for commuter parking.
Photo by Essie Hullaby

No residents allowed

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

One morning last spring, computer information systems major Brandon Timmon went to his car and found a parking ticket. He looked around at the other vehicles, and they all had tickets.

"I was appalled, and I was confused because I had been parking there for so long, longer than I had ever lived in Columns," he said. "As long as I have been a student at NSU, I had been parking there."

Timmon couldn't think of what he did wrong. The senior parked in the lot in front of the Health and Human Performance building just as he normally did when there was no parking left in University Columns.

"There was no room for me to park in Columns as a resident," he said. There were non-residents parked in the parking lot, and the parking at the end of the street seemed unsafe to use late at night, he said.

To satisfy his confusion, he went to the Northwestern State University Police Station to find out why the ticket was issued.

"The police officers told me that whenever we get a parking tag, we are taking full responsibility and confirming that we are aware of where we can and cannot park on campus," Timmon said. "Each student is given a handbook with a map that tells who can park where." But he said he never received one.

Parking maps are no longer provided in the student handbook, but NSU officers said that one can be found online. When "parking map" was searched by the police on the website, however, there was no result.

"Residents don't really have many options on where to park. They'll just have to park at their residence," Patrick Presott, a dispatcher for NSU police, said. When a student signs for a parking pass, he or she is confirming knowledge on where to park.

"It's kind of how you get your driving license at the DMV office; it's stating that you understand what the laws are pertaining to the road ways and knowing how to drive," Prescott said.

Police don't issue tickets until someone brings a problem to their attention. Prescott said if a student hasn't been given a ticket before and then suddenly has one, it's because someone called and complained.

Residents are allowed to voice a complaint when non-residents park in their parking spots. Students can speak with management of the property and then speak with university police.

Tickets can be appealed. There is a 96-hour time limit from the time the ticket is issued to go to the police station and fill out an appeal form. The form is then sent to the traffic committee which is made up of faculty, staff and students.

The university police will answer any questions the committee may have, but they are actually unable to vote on whether or not the ticket is appealed in the end.

The parking lot where Timmon parked is commuter parking, and residents cannot park there during operating hours. After 3 p.m., all commuter parking becomes open zoning. This means that residents can park in these lots after 3 p.m., but they must move their cars by 7 a.m. when the lot becomes commuter parking again.

SGA celebrates freshmen

Justin Vance
A&E Editor

Northwestern welcomes a new class of freshmen, and several organizations are spending countless hours preparing to receive them. The Student Government Association, SGA, is no exception. As officers and senators gathered on Aug. 22 for their annual retreat, each officer was trained on how to receive and best connect with the incoming students.

The SGA acts as the bridge between faculty and students, with student concerns as its main priority. Every year, events are carefully planned by the SGA to help students become comfortable with their representatives and form bonds with faculty members who are willing to listen and offer assistance.

The upcoming Fall Term will kick-off with a chance for freshmen to get to know their representatives. As part of the traditional Welcome Week, on Sept. 22, SGA will host Donuts with the Dean. This event allows students to treat themselves to free donuts and orange juice on their way to classes while having time to speak to the dean of students, Frances Conine. This event not only provides an excuse to distribute free donuts, but also a carefree environment where students can chat with the dean about anything from real concerns to casual conversation.

Following the reinstitution of the speaker series, SGA will attempt to bring a prominent speaker to NSU every year. Currently, this year's speaker is undecided, but whoever it is will arrive late October as a "Halloween Speaker." SGA hopes to bring a person with the same level of enthusiasm as last spring's speaker, Charlaine Harris, author of the True Blood series. She attracted both the interests of NSU students and the Natchitoches community.

The last and biggest event of the fall semester is the Late Night Breakfast, held during finals week. This event is designed as a well-deserved break between long study sessions. Students are welcome to bring their books and their friends to Iberville, where they will be treated to breakfast food served by SGA members.

The students of the SGA make themselves accessible to the student body during office hours and while participating in events across campus. By implementing social media like the student concerns Facebook page and an open-door policy, students are encouraged to make their concerns known.

Students of the SGA are all over campus, which means there are constant opportunities to get to know your student representatives throughout the semester. Whether it is on the way to class, in the SGA office or on the first floor of the student union, all can pass by and say "hello" or collect a free scantron on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. by presenting their student IDs.



NSU football fans will be able to enjoy a new tailgating area this football season. Check out this story exclusively on www.currentsaucenews.com. *Photo by Tyra Morrison*



During phase two of the renovations, The Alley will be updated to allow for student use. *Photo by Emilee Self*



New paint, seating arrangements and a clean ceiling contribute to the open air feel of the Friedman Student Union. *Photo by Emilee Self*

Phase one: Flip this union

Damian Glover
PR/Online Editor

President Henderson came to Northwestern State University with many goals in mind. Around two weeks ago, the Friedman Student Union projects commenced to renovate integral parts of the building.

Alan Pasch, executive director of student union life, is very excited about the future of the union and the changes that it will undergo this year.

"Right now we are focusing on phase one, which is the areas where we receive most of the traffic," Pasch said about the process. "Phase two will focus on fixing problems within The Alley and making it a working environment again, as well as fixing the catwalk that leads to the union. It will now be a ramp which will become more handicap accessible to those entering from the front of the building."

Besides new paint on the wall and new doors in the hallway, the art department is currently updating the Long Purple Line. The pictures of distinguished alumni will be given new frames, and better lighting will be added to emphasize a contemporary look.

The future of the Long Purple Line is to one day become digitalized for easy access for interested individuals. This will free up space for more honorees as well as create an area that is conducive to the changing times. The art department will also be responsible for creating two new pieces of artwork that will seek to capture the true essence of Louisiana culture.

Leslie Gruesbeck, a faculty member within the art department, emphasized that the project will be finished by the first week of December.

"Focusing on the wild life and plants will serve as the theme for the mosaic," Gruesbeck said.

Gruesbeck also encourages all students and community members interested in dedicating time towards creating the mosaic to contact her at 357.5476 or stop by Room 219B of the Creative and Performing Arts building.

Other ongoing projects include new end tables for the lobby, new outdoor speakers broadcasting the school's radio station, KNWD, and new Northwestern State outdoor flags.

New department brings new beginnings

Emily Carter
Associate Editor

Starting during the Fall 2015 semester, Northwestern State University will see changes within several academic programs. These changes will take effect in the Department of Language and Communication; the Department of Biology, Microbiology and Veterinary Technology; and the Department of Physical Sciences.

The Department of Language and Communication is being divided into the Department of New Media, Journalism and Communication Arts and the Department of English, Foreign Languages and Cultural Studies. The Department of New Media, Journalism and Communication Arts will exist under the School of Creative and Performing Arts.

The idea behind moving this new department to CAPA is to allow students to collaborate with students who are studying the way the industry works. It will help "create the concept of a creative team," Dr. Greg Handel, director of CAPA, said.

> *"Over the next few years, I hope to see growth in the areas of media at NSU, whether that be through a new video producton program, mobile and web productuon classes or classes that focus on social media and marketing."*
> *-Daniel Thiels, Student Media Coordinator*

"Students will be able to develop a degree plan that aligns with their interests," Handel said. "Instead of a cookie-cutter approach, each student can have an individualized program that offers a unique experience and adds to their marketability."

New degree tracks are being developed for the bachelor's degree in communication. The focus is to offer electronic media and social media in addition to existing concentrations.

Daniel Thiels, student media coordinator, thinks the change is necessary for the university. He thinks it will help NSU "to stay relevant in the world of communications and new media."

"There is so much potential, and I believe Northwestern is in the perfect situation to make those shifts to keep up with today's job market demands," Thiels said.

Jay Conova, a junior concentrating in performance and directing in theatre, is excited about the change. Conova thinks that collaboration will help broaden learning horizons and help utilize aspects of NSU that people aren't fully aware of.

"This addition to CAPA is for the best and will help prepare people for the daunting task of the real world and learning how to market oneself," Conova said. "I look forward to the day that I work alongside these students because of everything I can learn from them."

The Department of English, Foreign Language and Cultural Studies is focused on rebuilding itself with more faculty as well as making improvements to existing programs. The focus of this will be on technical writing, literature and the folklore program.

Other academic changes coming to campus in the upcoming semester include reducing the number of concentrations in the Department of Biology, Microbiology and Veterinary Technology. The goal is to allow more focus in the department to prepare students for graduate school and the workforce upon graduation from NSU.

The Department of Physical Sciences is considering adding a program in forensic science and a graduate degree program in professional sciences based on demands in the industry.

‘Tis the season to recruit Greek women



Gamma Chi recruitment counselors show their love for the College Panhellenic Council—the coordinating body for its three sororities on the Natchitoches campus. *Image from Nicole Klibert*

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Another day draws closer the fall sorority recruitment. Every year, thousands of Greek women across the nation prepare to get new additions to their chapters.

Northwestern’s campus has three for the incoming girls to choose from: Phi Mu Fraternity, Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority and Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity.

Recruitment this semester is from Friday, Sept. 4, to Sunday, Sept. 6.

After registering online, girls will meet together on Sept. 2 for the convocation to get an overview of what sorority recruitment weekend is all about.

Senior Alex André, a member of Phi Mu Fraternity, described “recruitment” as just a fancy word for a time set aside for girls to get to know one another.

Phi Mu Fraternity



Members of Phi Mu Fraternity “throwing what they know,” their official symbol, the quatrefoil. *Image from Nicole Klibert*

“I think of recruitment as the first step in a quest—a time to get to know more people and open our houses to girls who want to help build the Greek culture that is already on our campus,” Alex André said.

Several people on campus are here to help ease women into the Greek community.

This year, there are 14 Gamma Chis—women who come together, separate from their respective Greek organizations—to guide prospective members through the recruitment process and give an unbiased glimpse into the Greek world.

Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity



Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity members show Cajun pride by the Cane River in Natchitoches. *Image from Nicole Klibert*

Freshman Amanda Simmons thinks that recruitment is one of the most nerve-racking but also exciting experiences you can possibly go through in college.

“My overall idea of recruitment is that it sounds a lot like speed dating,” Simmons said.

“You meet tons of wonderful people in a short amount of time, and in the end you get to make a decision as to which group of women you’d best see yourself becoming a part of.”

Junior Caitlyn Garland said, “Don’t be nervous. We are way more nervous than you.”

The Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity member said to approach recruitment with an “open mind.” A certain house may seem like the one, but, after going through the recruitment process, young women may realize different ones truly fit them.

With hundreds of women wearing pink, purple and red Greek letters, sophomore Samantha Carrier thinks girls should remember the purpose behind joining a Greek organization: serving both the community and philanthropy.

Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority



Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority sisters contribute their support to the basketball team by sitting in the Greek section. *Image from Nicole Klibert*

“Sorority life is so much more than looking cute in letter shirts and going to different events,” Carrier said.

“As a sorority woman, it is easier to get involved on campus and to make an impact in your community.”

The Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority member also said that going Greek was one of the best decisions she has ever made.

For more information about Greek life and the recruitment process, visit greeks.nsula.edu or call 357-5439.

The Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life is located on the first floor of the student union.

Cooking with Vic

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

I’m a sandwich person, always have been. Chicken salad, BLT, turkey and tuna – melted and topped with fresh avocado and tomato – these are the things I always crave.

I love scouring the fridge to see what combinations I can make. Honey mustard or jalapeno mayo? Havarti or Gouda? Okay, I’m a bit of a sandwich snob. What can I say? I guess it’s a creative outlet.

But a couple of years ago, I came across a sandwich that shook my confidence. It made all previous sandwiches look like Lunchables. All these years I had been thinking inside the box. Where I had asked what to put between the bread, some pioneering thinker out there had asked the question, “What can I put on top?”

The “slider” was thus born. At least that’s what my grandmother called it. The name stuck and so has the tradition. For comfort food or to celebrate a homecoming, nothing hits the spot like a tray of warm sliders and a pot of chicken gnocchi soup.

This weekend, we picked up my younger brother from the airport after his summer in Guatemala. Mom and I spent the morning stuffing croissants with black forest ham and pepper jack cheese.

Once we got back from the airport, we pulled the sandwiches out of the fridge and turned on the oven. The soup was heating up and we were trying not to fill up on chips and dip. We took out the ingredients and started making “the sauce.”

We whisked together melted butter, poppy seeds, sugar and grey poupon mustard in a saucepan until the butter melted. I know it sounds weird, but somehow all these odd flavors came together beautifully.

Once it looked pourable, we spooned the sauce onto the stuffed croissants. We let them sit for 15 minutes so that it could sink into the bread. We slipped them in the oven and waited for another 15 minutes until it crisped perfectly. When the poppy seeds got black and the crust got brown, we got ready.

We poured a few cups of soup and grabbed a couple sliders. My brother fixed seconds and possibly thirds. I wouldn’t know because by that time I was happily stuffed and dozing off. Mom said he requested this meal a month before coming home.

Although in this case the sliders served as a rich, hearty comfort dish, at other times I’ve added fresh avocado, tomato and sprouts for a lighter take—another delicious combination.

The point is, sandwiches should never be put in a box. In fact, that rule applies to all manner of food preparation. In college, we can’t always make the perfect meal. We don’t always have the right cheese or oil or meat to stick to the recipe.

Be creative. Think outside the box. Try this sandwich or make your own. In fact, don’t follow my recipe exactly. Make your own additions and changes. Who knows what you’ll come up with?

Sliders



Ingredients

- 20 croissants
- Black forest ham
- Pepper jack cheese
- 1/2 cup margarine
- 2 tablespoons poppy seed
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons grey poupon mustard

Instructions

Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Stuff the croissants with black forest ham and pepper jack cheese. Mix the butter, poppy seeds, sugar and mustard in a saucepan until melted. Pour over the sandwiches. Let sit for 15 minutes. Bake for 15 minutes. Let sit to cool. Enjoy your sliders.

The Odyssey: An epic of college media

Megan Boyanton
Life Editor

Amongst the noticeable changes at the university, a newer form of student media, branching from the classics of radio and newspaper, emerged over the summer.

The student-based newspaper The Odyssey has found a home within Northwestern State University, which will join a population of more than 450 communities, including Louisiana State University, partaking in the online trend.

After hearing about it through friends, sophomore Taylor Holloway introduced the opportunity in July to the student body, spreading the word to build a team of writers and editors.

"It made me want to bring it to NSU because we are such a small school, but we have so much heart and spirit," Holloway said.

"I felt like we could give a lot to the website and to The Odyssey in general."

Holloway functions as the editor-in-chief of the Northwestern State division, while senior Anthony Cannata and junior Marissa McMickens serve respectively as the social media coordinator and contributing editor.

While the news source received a primarily positive reaction, backlash has been felt within the university's student media department, which includes The Current Sauce, KNWD 91.7 FM, Argus and Potpourri.

"I definitely don't think we'll ever absorb it as student media because it's open to anyone and everyone," Student Media Coordinator Daniel Thiels said.

"The Odyssey is an entirely separate entity that we don't own . . . that would be like us trying to have control over people's Tumblr blogs—It creates a certain amount of competition for The Current Sauce, but, at the same time, it will force us to become more progressive and, hopefully, raise our standards."

The university's official student newspaper functions with the traditional sections of Life, News and others.

While it prints once a week, The Current Sauce has started advancing onto the online frontier with its website.

The Odyssey permits its writers with more flexible topics and formats, allowing "listicles" and open letters.

"The best articles come from writing about things you feel very passionate about. Passion promotes creativity," writer and junior Loren Ryland said.

NSU contributors have taken advantage of that fact, composing varying pieces, such as Savanah Meredith's "Are We Living In A Parallel Universe?"

The Odyssey's home page boasts more than 3,500 writers around the world, while functioning strictly as an Internet source.

The website states, "Odyssey is a social content platform that crowdsources ideas from millennial thought leaders in their local communities. It surfaces a rich and otherwise untapped diversity of stories and viewpoints to share with an audience hungry for a variety of perspectives."

Originally founded at Indiana University, current CEO of the newspaper Evan Burns was recently featured on the 2015 Forbes "30 under 30" list.

Since its recent establishment, The Odyssey at Northwestern State has earned a social media following through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Loren Ryland commented on the publication's reception, saying, "I do wish that more students read our articles. We work hard on them and are proud when people give us good feedback."

Hopefully, the student body will be able to watch The Odyssey grow alongside NSU media in ambitious harmony.

NSU alumnus remembered after honorable death

Emily Carter
Associate Editor

What's the connection between hunting, fishing and football? These are the hobbies of fallen Police Officer Thomas LaValley.

LaValley, 29, lost his life on Aug. 5, after responding to a domestic disturbance call.

Grover Cannon has been charged with first degree murder in the shooting of LaValley.

LaValley served with the Shreveport Police Department for around four years.

Prior to joining the department, LaValley attended Northwestern State University and worked for KTBS Channel 3 in Shreveport as a videographer for the team for more than three years.

Following his death, KTBS News wrote a piece to honor their former employee, entitled, "Remembering our friend, SPD Officer Thomas LaValley."

"The death of Shreveport Police Officer Thomas LaValley, 29, is still sinking in for many in the ArkLaTex, including those of us at KTBS 3," the article reads.

"Many today are remembering how special Thomas LaValley was, and the lives he touched."

The communities sorrow for the fallen officer manifested itself into various restaurant-sponsored fundraisers to support the family.

On Aug. 10, Johnny's Pizza started the trend. Restaurants in Shreveport, Bossier and Haughton donated 15 percent of all sales from 5-8 p.m.

The following day, Boneheads in Shreveport donated 10 percent of all profits after 4 p.m.

The organizer of these charitable events, Caroline Deniakos, claimed that it was a small gesture for a good friend.

"There's no reason not to do this," Deniakos said.

"Thomas was a friend of mine. I met him when I interned at Channel 3, and just like the rest of Shreveport I'm outraged and sad and mad all at the same time. He was fun and sweet and kind of shy. I have so many memories with him. He was a person who would put you in your place, but also make you feel good at the same time."

On Aug. 16, some people even left their lights on for Officer LaValley and a major event called the "Officer Thomas LaValley Benefit Fishing Tournament" was established in his honor.

Entry forms are available at Bacon's Tackle, Northwood Tackle and Academy in Shreveport and Bass Pro in Bossier.

All future charitable events can be found on the Facebook page, "In Memory of Thomas LaValley,"



A graduate of Northwestern State, Thomas LaValley worked as a college TV anchor on NSU 22 News. He went on to work for three years at KTBS News. *Submitted by Tom Whitehead*

KNWD Welcome Week Schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
12:00AM	Pop	Pop	Pop	Pop	80s & 90s	EDM	EDM
1:00AM	Acoustic	Pop	Acoustic	Alternative	Rap & Hip-Hop	EDM	Rap & Hip-Hop
2:00AM	Classical	Acoustic	Classical	Acoustic	EDM	Pop	Pop
3:00AM	Classical	Classical	Classical	Classical	Pop	Pop	Acoustic
4:00AM	Classical	Classical	Classical	Classical Covers	Alternative	Acoustic	Classical Covers
5:00AM	Classical	Classical Cover	Classical	50s	Pop	Classical Covers	Classical Covers
6:00AM	Morning Playlist	Morning Playlist	Morning Playlist	Fallout Playlist	Morning Playlist	Morning Playlist	Morning Playlist
7:00AM	Morning Playlist	Morning Playlist	Morning Playlist	Fallout Playlist	Morning Playlist	Morning Playlist	Morning Playlist
8:00AM	Pop/Alt	Alternative	Pop/Alt	60s & 70s	Pop/Alt	Alternative	Pop/Alt
9:00AM	Pop/Alt	Pop	Pop/Alt	80s	Pop	Alternative	Pop/Alt
10:00AM	Alternative	Pop	Alternative	80s & 90s	Pop	Pop/Alt	Pop
11:00AM	Alternative	Alternative	Alternative	90s & 00s	Alternative	Pop/Alt	Pop
12:00PM	Pop	Pop/Alt	Pop	00s	Pop/Alt	Pop	Alternative
1:00PM	Alternative	Alternative	Alternative	80s & 90s	Alternative	Alternative	Alternative
2:00PM	Rock	Rock	Rock	Classic Rock	Rock	Rock	Rock
3:00PM	Rock	Rock	Rock	Classic Rock	Rock	Rock	Rock
4:00PM	Alternative	Alternative	Alternative	80s	Alternative	Alternative	Alternative
5:00PM	Pop	Alternative	Pop	80s & 90s	Alternative	Pop/Alt	Alternative
6:00PM	Alternative	Pop/Alt	Alternative	90s & 00s	Pop	Pop	Pop
7:00PM	Alternative	Pop/Alt	Alternative	80s & 90s	Pop	Pop	Alternative
8:00PM	Pop	Pop	Pop	80s	Rap & Hip-Hop	Rap & Hip-Hop	Rock
9:00PM	Pop	Pop	Pop	Classic Rock	Rap & Hip-Hop	Rap & Hip-Hop	Rock
10:00PM	Rap & Hip-Hop	Rap & Hip-Hop	Rap & Hip-Hop	Classic Rock	Pop	Pop	Classic Rock
11:00PM	Rap & Hip-Hop	Rap & Hip-Hop	Rap & Hip-Hop	80s & 90s	Pop	Pop	Classic Rock

NSU welcomes new Demons to the family



Old Demons team together to help new students move into dorms on-campus.
Photo by Alec Horton

Around 1,350 students moved in this year!

Students have a smooth move-in day

Alliyah Perry
Opinions Editor

Gray skies and the possibility of rain didn't put a damper on the efforts or mood of this year's move-in day. Helping hands came from the Demon sports teams, resident assistants and on-campus organizations to make the transition as smooth as possible.

At check-in, resident assistants handled paperwork, handed out keys and explained the dorm upgrades. Sophomore accounting major, Brionne Alfred, worked her first move-in day as a resident assistant this year.

"After two weeks of onsite training, we try to be as prepared as possible for any questions or situations to come on move-in day," Alfred said.

Tri Sigma sisters Sarah Heard and Tess Dowdel arrived around 7 a.m. and, by the end of the day, agreed the day was a success.

Sarah Heard, a sophomore nursing major, was a part of the move-in day crew that was recruited to help direct traffic and get all the students settled in.

"We mainly worked with logistics and trying to keep traffic moving and a nice flow to everyone showing up," Heard said. "Today has been a good day overall, a little hectic when people showed up at the same time, but fun and very enjoyable."

"My arms are tired but I really enjoyed being helpful to everyone moving in," Dowdel said.

Freshman health and exercise major, Marquesha Johnson, was impressed by the help everyone was giving during her move in.

"I made it to my dorm and didn't have to move a single thing," Johnson exclaimed. "The move-in crew was the best."

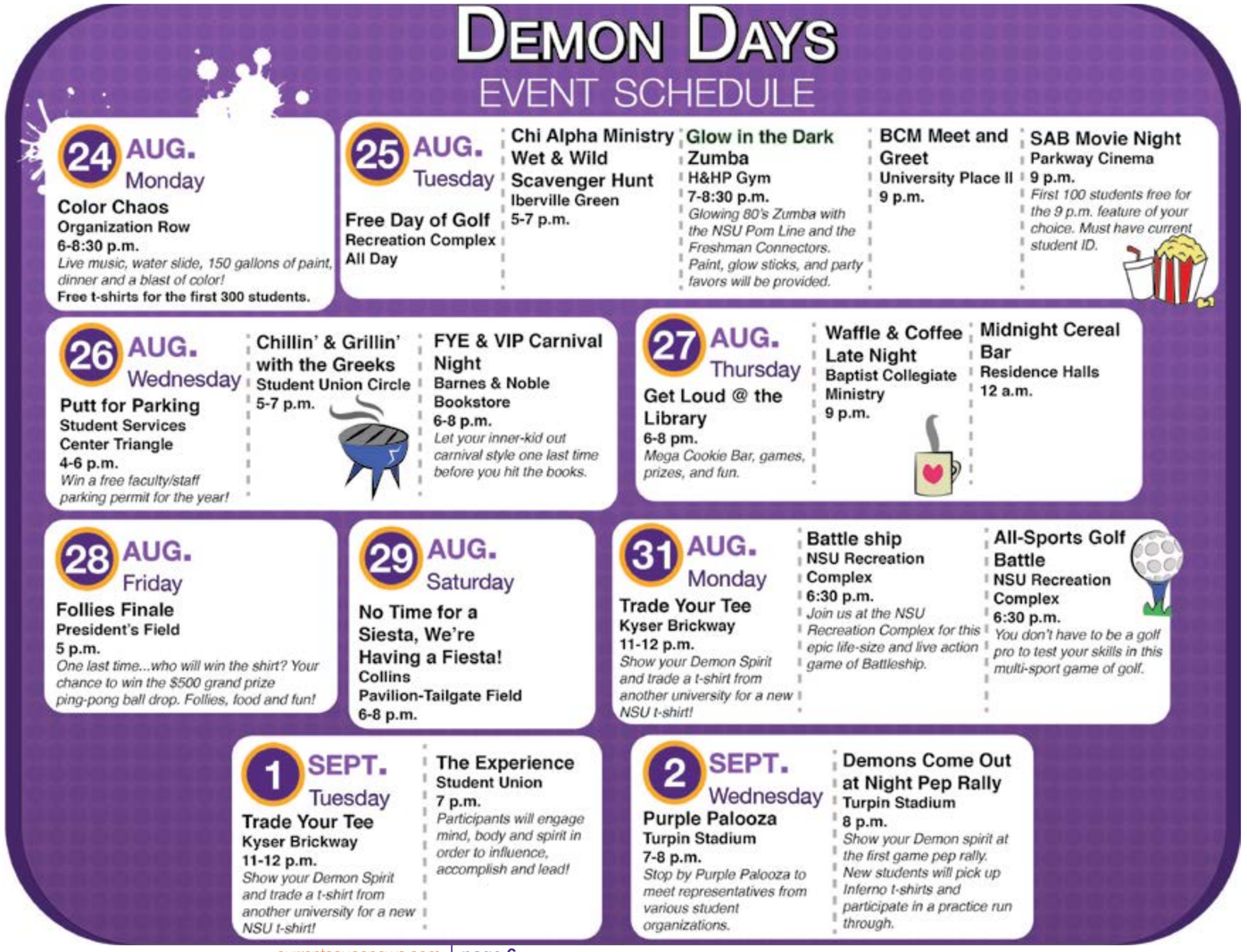
Johnson graduated from Zwolle High School and moved to Natchitoches to really experience the college lifestyle.

"I really liked the look and warm apartment feel that the rooms of University Place had," she said. Some of the things she brought to make her feel at home included a microwave, a fridge and some personalized dorm necessities.

Move-in is just the beginning of a week dedicated to making students feel welcome and engaged in the year to come.

"We don't want you to survive. We want you to thrive."

-Dr. James Henderson, NSU President



President Henderson welcomes Class of 2019

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

Northwestern State University's Class of 2019 attended the New Student Convocation and President's Picnic, Sunday Aug. 23.

Around 700 freshmen filled A.A. Fredericks Auditorium, eagerly waiting to be officially deemed NSU Demons. Before the convocation began, the auditorium was buzzing with chatter and selfie-taking. One student Face-Timed her parents to share the iconic moment that was one of her first college experiences.

Freshman Joey Caroll, a theater and vocal performance major, described his experience leaving home for the first time as a "step out of his comfort zone."

"I am used to a small town where everybody knows each other," Caroll said. "I have to meet new people."

The faculty encouraged students to cherish their time at NSU and have fun, but to work even harder. Keynote Speaker for the event and professor of theatre and dance, Pia Wyatt, admonished the new students to give 100 percent with their college professors.

"We are here to guide you and mold you," she said. "Look them in the eye and be someone."

NSU President Dr. Jim Henderson gave his most important piece of advice for freshman students: Attending class.

"For six weeks, don't miss a class." Henderson said. He not only gave students advice, but he explained the NSU faculty's desire for the students to get the most of their college experience.

"We don't want you to survive," he said. "We want you to thrive."

For the first time in Demon history, following the convocation, the huge hoard of freshman walked over to the iconic NSU columns for the President's Picnic. In past years, the picnic was held at Prather Coliseum. This year, though, Dr. Henderson wanted the incoming students to see what NSU stands for.

"NSU is the oldest standing university in the state of Louisiana," Dr. Henderson said. He explained that the three columns stand for the tradition, heritage and permanence of NSU.

With the columns standing tall, NSU students mingled and enjoyed free food while a live band played upbeat music.

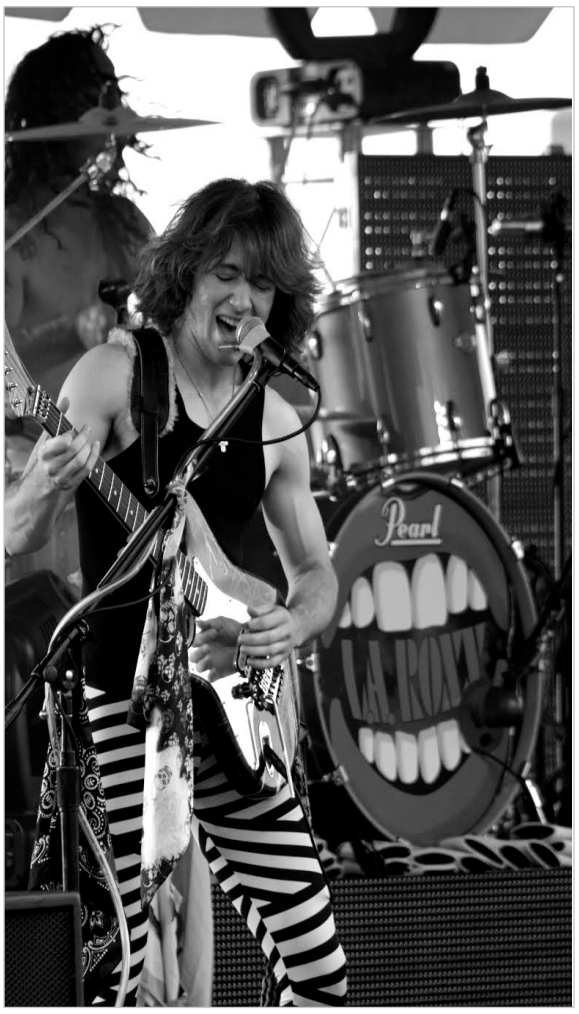
Freshman Maisley Rabalais explained that she was ready to start a new chapter in her life. "I want college to be a lot different than high school," she said.

On Monday, Aug. 24, the Class of 2019 will try to find their classes, and even if they find it hard to meet new people and get oriented at first, they will know one thing: College will certainly be different from high school.



Students enjoy the President's Picnic on Normal Hill.
Photo by NSU Photolab

L.A.ROXX excites students for a new semester of Demon pride



'80s cover band L.A. ROXX welcomes students back to school. *Photo submitted by Alec Horton*

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

You come from Natchitoches; that's why you people look so good," hollered Kriss D. Deville, lead singer of 80s tribute band L.A. ROXX, from on stage the night of move-in day.

At the "Rock of Ages Tour" concert held on Aug 22, students new and returning were reminded why they chose to come to Northwestern State. Students, parents, local business owners and staff members all attended the concert on Iberville Green.

"We just love NSU" alumna Cherie Steingold said. "I come out to as many events as possible." Steingold described the band as "spunky" and authentic. She noted her surprise that the students knew the songs of the '80s.

"A lot of these kids only know the music if their parents played it for them."

Freshman Sarah LaJaunie enjoyed hearing a music genre on campus that she thought she only listened to. "Tonight has such a great energy," LaJaunie said. "It's great to hear this music in a public place with everyone actually cheering it on."

Many students danced and sang along to the songs performed by L.A. ROXX. "I'm a little deaf in one ear," Freshman Shelby Ridel admitted. "It's a lot of fun."

The band's covers included songs like "Animal," "Livin' On A Prayer," "Here I Go Again" and "The Final Countdown." The musicians dressed up in full '80s garb with printed leggings, boots and bandannas. Most noticeably, all band members completed their looks with long hairdos drenched in sweat from the performance.

As the audience's energy rose, so did the energy of the band.

"I want you to show me why Demons are the best on this planet," Deville roared, as students moved in closer to the stage holding up their fork-em hands. "I want you to be so loud that you let the rest of the city know what they're missing out on."

Deville revealed to the audience he was a Natchitoches native himself, which brought on even more cheering.

KNWD, the Student Activities Board, and the First Year Experience team came together to organize the "Rock of Ages Tour" event. This concert kicked off NSU's Demon Days 2015, a series of events occurring the first few weeks of school designed to welcome students to campus.

"I like making the incoming students feel at home," Freshmen Connector and Demon Days volunteer Myranda Oegraw said. "I want them to realize that we are as fun as the new freshmen."

The students responsible for the Demon Days events "are spending their time for everyone to have a great time," Director of FYE Reatha Cox said.

Cox offered a word of advice to all students looking to enjoy their time at NSU.

"College is not just four years in a classroom,"she said. "It is important that everyone finds something to dig into. Invest in the opportunities you have here and be proud to go to NSU."

Playing a note and breaking a sweat : Band members participate in preseason camp

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

A typical day of band camp starts at 7 a.m. and ends at 8 p.m. with morning practice for marching fundamentals, mid-day practice for learning and memorizing music, and evening practice for marching and playing.

Before going home for a well-deserved rest, members stay until late at night playing games and getting to know each other.

One of the 111 freshman who joined the band this year, piccolo player Hope Spaw, described her first college band camp experience as a "blast" so far.

"Everyone is so welcoming and I love how everyone is so diverse, yet it's like one huge family," she said.

"It's a lot of hard work, but it will most definitely pay off in the end."

Assistant Drum Major Eric Neeley believes "having fun" is an important purpose of the camp, but seeing all the new faces and making new friends is still his favorite part.

"Band camp is an opportunity to make a lot of new and meaningful friendships that will help uplift our members in their upcoming years," Neely said.

Head Drum Major Jimmy Stafford said he hopes to continue leading the band as an "emblem" for the school spirit at Northwestern.

As one of the leaders in the band, he encourages each student to take responsibility for themselves, so that the director can focus on making them great.

"If you enforce self-discipline, the director will not have to enforce discipline," Stafford said.

He also quoted junior Michaela Blackshear saying that in band "there is no try, only do or do not."

Stafford thinks the band is off to a wonderful start, but claims that to continue thriving throughout the season each individual member will have to participate and perform whole-heartedly.

At this stage of the game, though, Stafford said he is excited to see the band at their first after-school rehearsal and their first scheduled game next month.

Director of Bands Jeffery Mathews said that the purpose of band camp is to learn how to play the music, how to march and how to coalesce as a group and work together.

His goals for the band this year are to continue growing and developing a national presence, to develop a larger presence on social media and to have a successful injury-free season.

Northwestern students can expect a lot of new things from the band this year: new uniform hats, new stand tunes and two new shows.

One new show will include tracks from popular radio stars like Bruno mars, Taylor Swift and Lorde, while the second show—called "Blood Sweat and Tears"—will feature popular music from The '70s era. The band will play at the first home game Sept. 3 at 6 p.m.

For when it rains: Advice for bad days

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

College will change you. These are the best years of your life." I heard this time and time again as a freshman, and at first it felt like those perfect days would never end.

I still remember the day they did. Away from my family, I started having to adapt to the external changes in my life. These changes were sometimes hard to process. It took a lot of introspection, but eventually I found a way to deal with it.

That day, I was feeling really low. It was one of those spurts of sadness that comes around every blue moon, the kind that happens when there's nothing to warrant emotions for the day, no rollercoaster to ride.

I sulked and sat and shut the curtains. I was alone in my apartment. When I couldn't stand the silence or the computer any longer, I put on my only clean T-shirt and took a ride. I rolled down my windows to feel the breeze.

Deciding to take a scenic drive out to the Alligator Farm down the highway, I turned the radio on just in time for the start of "Roxanne" by The Police and blared the volume, surprised a little by hearing a voice for the first time that day. It started to rain just as the sun peeked out from the clouds.

The weather and the smoothie and the genius of The Police stirred me from my zombie-like state. I couldn't peg the feeling at first, but then it sunk in. All alone with no one else to make me *feel*, something as simple as music and the open road made me feel alive.

Just like the blend of sunshine and rain, the blend of sadness and joy was real and raw. I put my arm out the window to catch the pellets of rain.

Some days in the twilight zone of college, the routine will get mundane. The days will start to blur. All your goals and expectations will start to feel less important, and the excitement of life will dull a little.

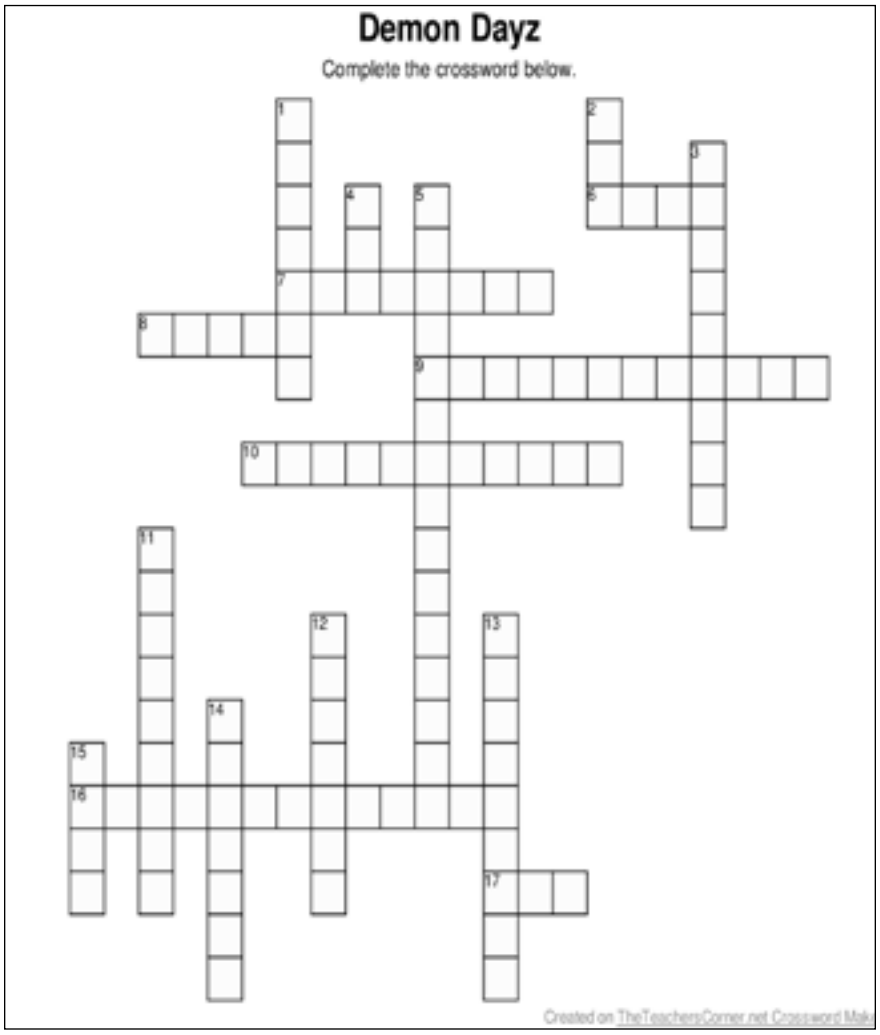
In those times, find a way to affirm your life. Friends who care, Cane Brake Café, music on the River Bank, a late night movie, a drive down a back road, your favorite antique shop — whatever it is — do it.

If you like film, join the film society. If you enjoy sports, join intramurals. If you like the water, join Crew. With the variety of people and options here in Natchitoches, there's definitely something up your alley and people there to join you. Find things that make you comfortable with yourself.

College is bittersweet. For me it's often been sweet, don't get me wrong. But I have some bitter memories. Like "rain comin' down on a sunny day," it can be a beautiful experience even when it's rough.

So when the rain comes, turn up the music, find your niche and affirm your life, because it's definitely worth it.

Wicked Wordplay



Down

1. You have to be 21 or older to visit here
2. Who is the school mascot?
3. You will see CREW practicing here
4. We solve all your problems
5. Who do you count on for weekly information?
11. Want to see cool pictures?
12. You might go here on the weekends
13. The most famous NSU alumni found on Twitter
14. What food is Natchitoches known for?
15. 97.1 anyone?

Across

6. You don't want to miss any event that takes place here
7. You can never find her, but she's always watching you
8. Chief who?
9. Our annual fundraiser
10. Where do the bigwigs work?
16. What was NSU before NSU?
17. We throw all of the fun events on campus

Answers for this puzzle can be found at www.currentsaucenews.com.

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Plans for the academic new year: Letters from student media leaders

Hi guys. My name is Emily Fontenot, and I'm the new editor-in-chief of The Current Sauce. I'm a senior in the Louisiana Scholars' College, and a perennial dabbler. I love film and art, sports and travel. But more than anything I love storytelling, and that's what I plan to do this year.

My goal is to make this paper the best it can be at telling stories. The bread and butter of storytelling hasn't changed much; it's still all about the angle and the honesty. The method of communication, however, has drastically changed, and the newspaper has an obligation to keep up. This year we'll be updating our website and social media accounts regularly to keep students up-to-date, and we're hoping to take advantage of the many gifted techies here by making our website more interactive. I'm honored to represent the university as a media leader, and I look forward to the trial and error of this year.

Enjoy the stories in this edition, and keep your eyes on the racks. I'm also hoping to get you guys to tell the stories for a change, so don't hesitate to send in your opinions. I look forward to hearing from you all this next year.





My name is Jessie Gabor, and I'm the 2015-2016 editor-in-chief of the Potpourri, NSU's yearbook. As the school year begins, I'd like to say how excited I am to be able to help preserve NSU's history. For over 100 years, NSU has had the privilege of producing some award-winning yearbooks.

One of my goals for this yearbook is to highlight the changes that NSU is currently going through. I plan to highlight the remodels, the new departments and the new organizations, but most of all the students.

This year's theme for the book is "Moving Forward." The book will feature modern designs and stories highlighting the changes being made on campus and in our community over the next year.

As NSU continues to leap forward, I'd like to make sure the yearbook staff and I are covering the growth on campus to the best of our abilities.

If you have any ideas, please do not hesitate to email me at jessie-gabor@yahoo.com. We are always looking to improve.

Don't forget to get your yearbook picture taken on Aug. 24, 25 and 26 in the student union from 8 a.m.- 3 p.m. each day! Fork em' Demons!

Hey Demons! My name is Katelon Ramos. I am a senior communications major with a passion for student media, which is why I am super excited to serve as your 2015-2016 general manager at KNWD 97.1 FM campus radio station.

The music and programming departments are working hard to make sure that the station is playing what the students want to hear. If you're looking to have a hand in what is played on KNWD, fill out the survey or apply to become a student disc jockey (DJ).

Daily newscasts will begin on Monday, Aug. 31, and will be held Monday-Thursday from 4:30-5 p.m.

Students can look forward to several music-filled events on campus, in collaboration with many different campus organizations. Some events include the KNWD Concert for a Cause on Sept. 18, Attack of the Jack-O-Lanterns on Oct. 14 and Caddo Fest on Nov. 20. The students will also have a chance to participate in various giveaways throughout the semester. Who knows? There may be a chance to win a pair of Voodoo Fest tickets this semester!

I am so thrilled to be a part of such an awesome organization at an even more awesome university. If you ever have suggestions, comments, questions or concerns, please feel free to stop by my office in Room 109 of Kyser Hall. Make sure to tune in to hear what's happening on KNWD.

Thanks and Fork 'Em!





Northwestern State was once 'Normal'

Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

From the school's establishment in 1884 in the old Bullard Mansion to after it became a four-year college for teachers in 1921, the school was known as "Normal School" or "Normal State College."

The school adopted the "Northwestern" name in 1944, and the school officially became known as Northwestern State University on June 18, 1970, by a legislative signing from Gov. John J. McKeithen.

Before the school was named "Northwestern," there was a fire where the original school stood. Everything burned down except for three white columns. Those columns, now refurbished, still stand on what the university calls "Normal Hill," and they remain a distinctive symbol of the school to this day, representing tradition, heritage and permanence.

The gate to "Northwestern State College" can also be found on campus near the Alumni Building outside of the main entrance. There is a bench under the gate for students to sit, touch and witness a piece of history.

Two minutes in, Lady Demons dominate opener



Lady Demon soccer team lightly practices among themselves before home opener against LSU-A. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

Benjamin Wellman
Sports Writer

After winning three of their final four games last season, the Lady Demon soccer team picked up right where they left off as they dominated the visiting LSUA Generals, defeating them 4-1 to get off to a winning start for the 2015 season.

The Lady Demon side that showed up tonight was a good mix of veterans and newcomers, and the chemistry between players showed in the victory.

Among the newcomers were freshmen forwards Brittany Caserma and Kayleigh Phillips, both of whom scored in their debuts, with Phillips also getting an assist.

"As a freshman, everyone comes in not knowing what to expect," Phillips said. "We had preseason, and it was pretty long, and you just strive to even step on the field as a freshman. But coming in and our team being successful and getting a goal and an assist was honestly a true blessing."

Caserma opened the scoring as early as the second minute. A good sequence by the Lady Demons led to a lob cross by midfielder Shelby Drope, and Caserma was there for the looping finish to give the Lady Demons a lead they never relinquished.

Eleven minutes later, sophomore attacker Cache Haley doubled the Lady Demons advantage. A shot by senior attacker Cassandra Briscoe was parried away by the LSUA goalkeeper, and Haley was right there to tap home the rebound.

Phillip's debut goal came in a very similar fashion to Haley's. Last season's leading scorer, sophomore Esdeina Gonzalez, collected a pass down the side and drilled in a shot, which the LSUA goalkeeper parried away again, but she couldn't stop the rebound shot, this time from Phillips.

The Lady Demons capped their scoring in the 36th minute. Phillips passed the ball off to junior midfielder Camilla Ardilla, and Ardilla made no mistake, curling the ball to the lower left corner and past the LSUA goalkeeper to send the Lady Demons into halftime with a 4-0 lead.

Despite a dominant first half, the Lady Demons could not hold on to the shutout in the second. In the 64th minute, LSUA attacker Linae Harada was able to get the ball past sophomore goalkeeper Alex Latham to break the shutout for the home side.

Fourth-year head coach George van Linder was pleased with his team's performance, and he's looking forward to the 5-game road swing the Lady Demons will be faced with next, beginning with a trip to Texas A&M.

"Every time you play those kind of teams, you better be stronger defensively, and you've got to get used to the speed and be able to play fast," Van Linder said. "They are certainly going to test us in those areas."

The Lady Demons will play five games on the road over a span of two weeks before returning home on Sept. 8, when they welcome the Alcorn Lady Braves.

Volleyball team eagerly awaits season

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

With two amazing seasons behind them, the Lady Demon Volleyball team, alongside their new head coach Sean Kiracofe, is looking to make another run deeper into the NCAA Tournament.

NSU is set to finish fifth by Southland coaches and sixth by the conference's sports information directors in the Southland Conference Preseason Polls. The Lady Demons landed three players – Glynna Johnson, Bailey Martin and Caiti O'Connell – to the preseason All-Southland Conference second team.

"I'm very proud of Glynna Johnson, Bailey Martin and Caiti O'Connell," first-year head coach Sean Kiracofe said. "I believe that they are very deserving of this preseason recognition. They have proven that they belong in this company with last season's accomplishments and the significant role they each played in winning Northwestern State's first volleyball championship. We are lucky to have these three veterans to mentor our newcomers to make sure our program continues to grow and improve."

Composed of seven returning letter wearers and six freshmen, the Lady Demons officially started practicing two weeks ago as they quickly got use to Coach Kiracofe's new themes.

"We were eager to get back," said senior outside hitter Caiti O'Connell. "I was eager to see, with the new coaching staff, all the stuff we're going to run, all the new defense. I was just eager to learn all that. We got a lot of game-type stuff in, which was good. We were able to see how what we worked on before worked in the newer system."

With confidence, the Lady Demons were excited about getting back on the court and ready to get another shot at the NCAA Tournament after falling one game short to a bid last November.

"I'm probably more excited about this season than any season before," senior middle blocker Glynna Johnson said. "We're all ready for the season to get started. I'm pretty confident about this season because of the people I worked with in the offseason, getting faster with Coach Coachman and the coaches coming in like Sean working with the middle blockers."

Their season begins Aug. 28, when NSU faces Tennessee State in the first day of the Magnolia Invitational at Ole Miss.



Second team, All-Southland Conference Libero Bailey Martin practices her serve during preseason workouts. *Photo by Kevin Shannahon*

Welcome to NSU

Class of 2019!



Oh, Alma Mater here today,
we for thy lasting blessings pray,
we know not where our paths
may go,
but, thou'll uphold us still we
know.
Unchanging thou, 'mid changes
vast,
unswerved from ideals of the past,
steadfast and true, our watchword
e're shall be —
To thee, our Alma Mater, Loyalty!

Thy trees their solemn chorus
bend
about thee, flowers their censers
blend.
Our voices swell their murmuring
strain,
our hearts repeat the old refrain,
they purpose high to carry on
Northwestern, thou has honor
won!
Steadfast and true, our watchword
e're shall be —
To thee, our Alma Mater, Loyalty!

In after years, when far away,
thy presence strong will near us
stay,
and as the echo of our son will,
with new courage, lead us on;
And to our eager vision then each
subtle memory meaning lend,
steadfast and true, our watchword
e're shall be —
To thee, our Alma Mater, Loyalty!

THE CURRENT SAUCE

Hellgate's Tailgate: new pre-game spot near Inferno Page 2

Names of Fall 2015 IFC Pledge Class Page 6

New student talks transfer stigma, gives advice Page 9

Lady Demons shutout Jackson State Page 10

NSU *vs.* Southeastern



The Demons opened their Fall 2014 season against Missouri State. This first game started a tradition of 'White Out,' where the team wears their white jerseys and as many fans as possible wear their white Demon gear. This is an exception to a 1982 NCAA rule stating that teams have to wear dark-colored jerseys on their home fields. An amendment in 1995 allowed the home team to wear white or light-colored jerseys if the visiting team agreed. This year the Demons are facing Southeastern Louisiana University for the annual White Out game. *Photo by Derrick Notice*



NSUPD cracks down on speed Demons

An-gel Samuel
Contributing Writer

Slow down speed demons. Campus police are getting radar guns.

Radars placed along South Jefferson Road will warn students to maintain a controlled speed while addressing the current speeding issue. Marcus Jones, vice president of university affairs, said that pedestrians have complained that they aren't able to safely cross the road because of constant speeding.

These new radars will be used to monitor speeding by catching those who are not following the speed limit.

Jones said, "Campus police officers already have radars and radar guns on campus, but they are stepping up the technology."

The new police radars have yet to arrive, but the president and the head of the campus police made their final decision already.

"As we work to make the campus easier to traverse by car, bike and foot, safety is paramount," Jones said. He hopes the radar enforcement will be a reminder to everyone to drive safely.

Since there are no speed bumps on South Jefferson and the road is relatively straight on the periphery of the campus, the tendency is to lose track of speed. He said that the radars are going to start on South Jefferson but that they will migrate to the rest of the campus over time.

Julia Barry, a senior mass communications major, said it is "good" that the police are acquiring new radars, but she thinks they're needed in other areas like on campus in the streets surrounding the student union.

"It can be dangerous walking around the union," Barry said. "I've seen some close-calls with some people and fast-moving cars."

Barry also said she is happy the campus will eventually have radars but thinks they won't solve all of the university's speeding problems. More stop signs and more speed bumps would be more effective in her opinion. Plus, there are times when students will just blank-out and forget what the speed limit is in those areas.

"I will probably be caught," she said.

Another student, senior Shaviah Jewel, thinks that there is one thing that overrides any other opinion she might have about the new radars: safety.

"As long as they keep us safe, I'm cool with it," she said.



Graphics by Jacob Contreras

Tailgate at the hellgate

Damian Glover
PR/Online Director

The new student tailgate will be revealed at the Demons Come out at Night Pep rally following Purple Palooza, an organizational browse, on Sept. 2. KNWD 91.7 FM will kick-off tailgating following the pep rally with a 24-hour live remote broadcast.

Campus organizations can now reserve their tailgate spots for free, and spots are given out on a first come first serve basis. Located next to the field house just outside the gates of Turpin Stadium are 15 premium spots. Each spot comes with two temporary parking passes allowing for drop off and pick up.

Katelon Ramos, a senior mass communications major and general manager of KNWD 91.7 FM, is excited about the future of student tailgating area.

"I think it is a great way to get students involved in student life which in return will allow organizations to grow and become more visible as well as active on campus," Ramos said.

Tori Thompson, athletics marketing associate, helped put the new student tailgate in motion. She said she's excited about the new student tailgate reveal.

Thompson said this is an example of what student groups can accomplish when they work together to make something they care about happen.

Different phases have taken and will take place in the future for the success of the student tailgate area. The first phase was meeting with staff and students about finding a prime location for the new student tailgate. The second phase was coming up with a name which will be revealed at the first pep rally. The third phase will be adding electricity, water and cable to the area.

Dr. Chris Maggio, vice president for the student experience, described the new tailgating area as an environment that is conducive to a great game day experience.

"Dr. Henderson has created a new presidential tailgate area that will be for top donors, as well as faculty and staff," Maggio said. "Alumni has their traditional tailgating areas, and with this new area, it will serve as a central location for students to tailgate, which we hope in return will enhance the student experience."

The student tailgating area will open at 5 p.m. the day before scheduled games. On game day, drop-off parking will be available from 9-11 a.m. After 11 a.m., no access to the parking lot beside the tailgate area will be allowed. That area will remain open until midnight after the game.

To reserve a spot for organizational use, interested individuals must first review the map of the area, then email the Northwestern marketing department at demonmarketing@nsula.edu with their desired spots and four alternate spots mentioned along with the organization's name and contact information. The first 15 organizations to email will receive spots.

Once confirmations have been sent out, tents will become available for rental through the office of the student experience. Organizations who would like to reserve a tent must email Annette Allen, the administrative assistant for the dean of students, at allenl@nsula.edu or call at 318-357-5285. There are ten, 10 ft. by 10 ft. tents and they will be issued as requested.

For more information or questions pertaining to the reservation process, feel free to contact Alan Pasch, executive director of student union life, at 318-357-6512 or Tori Thompson, athletics marketing associate, at 318-357-4293.

After the tailgate everyone can make their way to Turpin Stadium to enjoy the Spirit of Northwestern Marching Band, The Inferno and the Fall 2015 opening football game.



Wesley Campus Ministry lends free bikes to students for a shorter commute. Students must renew rentals after three days. *Photo by Essie Hullaby*

Gettin' around town:

Ministry supplies bikes to students

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

A new Wesley Campus minister is giving students a new opportunity to commute around campus by renting out bikes for free.

Clair Loraine, minister at the Wesley Campus Ministry, sent letters to local Methodist churches asking for unused bikes to help students without vehicles. Currently, she has collected 11 bikes, and two more are on the way.

"They were all donated by people who had faith that this might work," Loraine said.

Students can stop by the Wesley Campus Ministry across from the main entrance of campus to check out a bike for up to three days. When the bike is returned, the brakes are tightened and the air pressure is checked. If no other student is in need of a bike, then the student can check the bike out again, no charge. The only paperwork the student has to sign is a liability waiver to cover the just-in-case situation that the student gets injured on the bike while it is in their possession.

Graduate student Elkin Caveza rented a bike twice from the ministry. He uses the bike for transportation from his house to campus and around town. He thinks the bike is very useful. "I was supposed to own one for a long time, but I never got around to actually buying one," he said. "Now they are lending the bikes, so this has helped a lot."

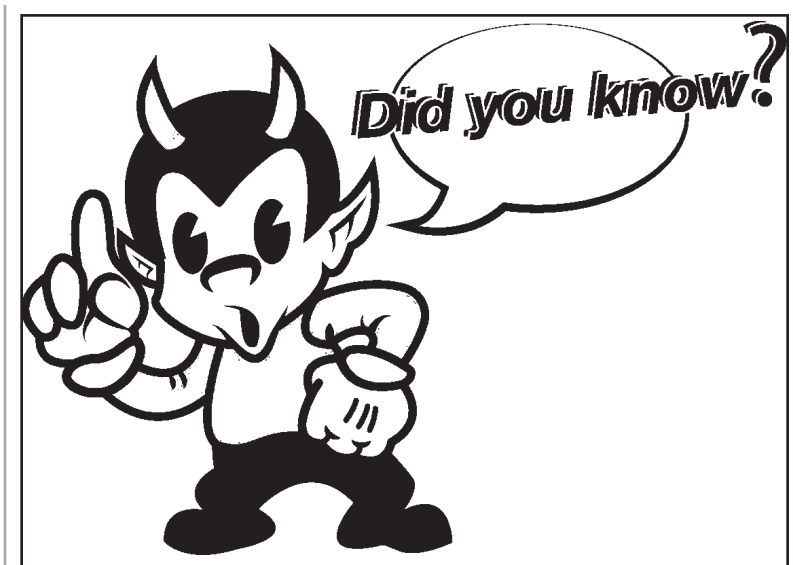
> *"I was supposed to own one for a long time, but I never got around to actually buying one. Now they are lending the bikes, so this has helped a lot."*
>
> *Elkin Caveza, Grad Student*

When Loraine arrived in town she performed a demographic study to identify the needs of the students at NSU and discovered that most students come from low-income families. Other special cases included first-generation students and international students.

The information she gathered gave her a "hunch" that a lot of students lacked "good" transportation to school and around Natchitoches.

"If you're lucky and you have a car, you can take care of [simple trips] easily. If you're walking and it's more than half a mile, that is kind of a big trip," Loraine said.

Loraine arrived in Natchitoches as the new missionary for Asbury Methodist Church this past summer. The Shreveport native graduated from the Candler School of Theology in May with a Master's in Divinity. The bike drive was only the beginning; Loraine also has a community garden in the works.



By: Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

Women outnumber men at NSU

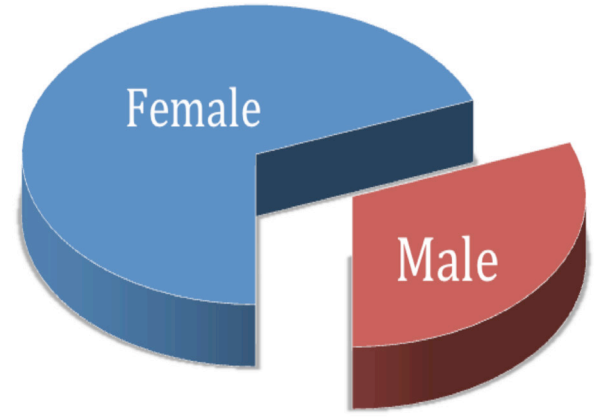
For every male student at NSU, there are at least two female students—at least enrollment-wise. Out of the 9002 people enrolled at NSU last year, two-thirds were female.

According to the 2014-2015 NSU Factbook, over the time span of 50 years, the female student population dominated that of their male counterparts. In 1974, the 3463 females barely topped the 2827 males, but as the years passed, their enrollment increased until it peaked in 2004 with 7086 females and 3460 males.

Within the past five years, NSU's female student enrollment doubled—if not tripled—male enrollment in almost all university aspects including age, ethnicity, student level and college.

The most significant gap between males and females is within Northwestern's graduate population. Specifically, female graduates enrolled part-time tower over the males by 82 percent.

Clarification on last week's "Did you know?" found online at www.currentsaucenews.com.



Out of 9002 people attending NSU 2/3 are female. This matches with Northwestern's long history of having less males than females. *Graphic by Kimberly Mosier*

Music Flashback: Drinks + Drama = Disaster

Alec Horton
Lead Photographer

It's normal for married couples to argue, but how normal is it for one spouse to try and kill the other?

On this day in 1989, Ozzy Osbourne was released from jail after attempting to strangle his wife, Sharon, while under the influence of alcohol.

Oddly enough, Ozzy's actions did not result in the termination of their marriage.

As rock stars, the constant presence of the spotlight shedding blinding light on your personal life is just a given.

Sometimes, however, this spotlight can catch you in the wrong place at the wrong time.

The good, the bad and the ugly alike are all put out there for the world to see, hear and judge with extreme bias.

In Mrs. Osbourne's 2005 autobiography "Extreme," she reveals to readers a dramatcally different side of Mr. Osbourne than what fans saw in his lovable persona on the MTV reality show "The Osbournes."

In a 2001 interview with The Guardian, Mrs. Osbourne recalls the violence in their home: "We'd beat the shit out of each other… We were in the gutter, morally, and I realized that if we both carried on, we'd wind up a washed-up pair of old drunks living in a hovel somewhere. So I stopped drinking."

Mrs. Osbourne admits she knew something was going to happen that night.

Mr. Osbourne came downstairs and sat on the sofa near her and calmly said, "I've decided you have to go."

Thinking he was joking, she ignored him, but Mr. Osbourne jumped on top of her and began strangling her until she could retaliate by hitting him in the head with a bottle of Scotch.

Law enforcement arrived shortly after and arrested Mr. Osbourne. Mr. Osbourne recalls the incident in a 2007 interview with Evening Standard.

He remembers waking up in his jail cell and asking what he was in there for since he blacked out the night before.

Upon hearing the officer's account of what had occured the previous night, Mr. Osbourne said he "just went numb."

Mrs. Osbourne soon dropped the charges on her husband with the condition that he went into rehab immediately in an attempt to control his alcoholism.

Mr. Osbourne agreed to his wife's conditions and enrolled in a rehailitation program hoping for the best.

Sadly, his time at the center didn't help him kick his addiction to alcohol.

"It was only when I got sick and tired of feeling sick and tired that I finally got my shit together," Mr. Osbourne said.

Contrary to what most people thought, this incident did not result in a divorce. Over 25 years later, Mr. and Mrs. Osbourne are still happily married.

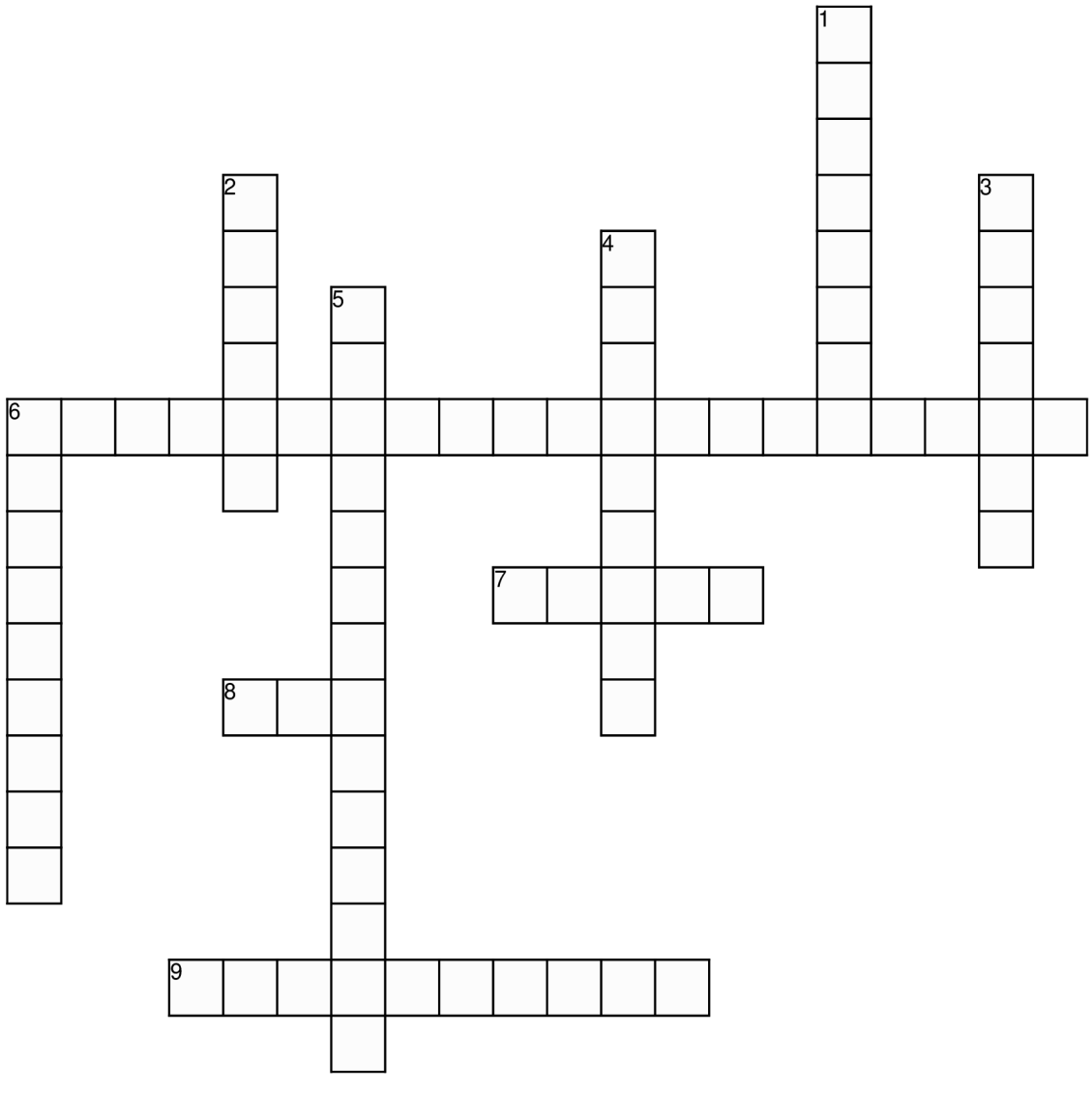
Mrs. Osbourne has since written multiple autobiographies. She also was a featured judge on both "America's Got Talent" and the British version of "The X Factor." She is still a prominent TV personality and can still be seen on the CBS talk show "The Talk."

In 2009, Mr. Osbourne published an autobiography titled "I Am Ozzy," which was received positively by critics who praised both his humor and his raunchy tales about his life as a rock star.

He continues to produce music as both a solo artist and a member of pioneering heavy metal band Black Sabbath.

Demon Pride

Complete the crossword below



Across

5. Who are the Demons playing this Homecoming?
8. What is the name of the school band?
9. What team did NSU come back to beat last year in their first match in 20 years?
10. What do the freshman participate in for the first game?

Down

1. What is the name of the school dance team?
2. Where is the midnight pep rally?
3. What do the freshman participate in for the first game?
4. Who leads the demon football team?
5. What NSU grad went free agent to the Rams this year?
6. What conference are the Demons a part of?

What you should watch: 'The Squid and the Whale'

Hammond Lake
Student Writer

A month ago, I found an interview online from 2005, which featured independent filmmaker Noah Baumbach.

Throughout the interview, he discussed not only the process of creating a film, but also told of a movie that he had just finished making, a film that I had never seen before.

Although he is not a household name yet, recently, Baumbach has gained critical acclaim for films such as 'While We're Young' and 'Francis Ha'.

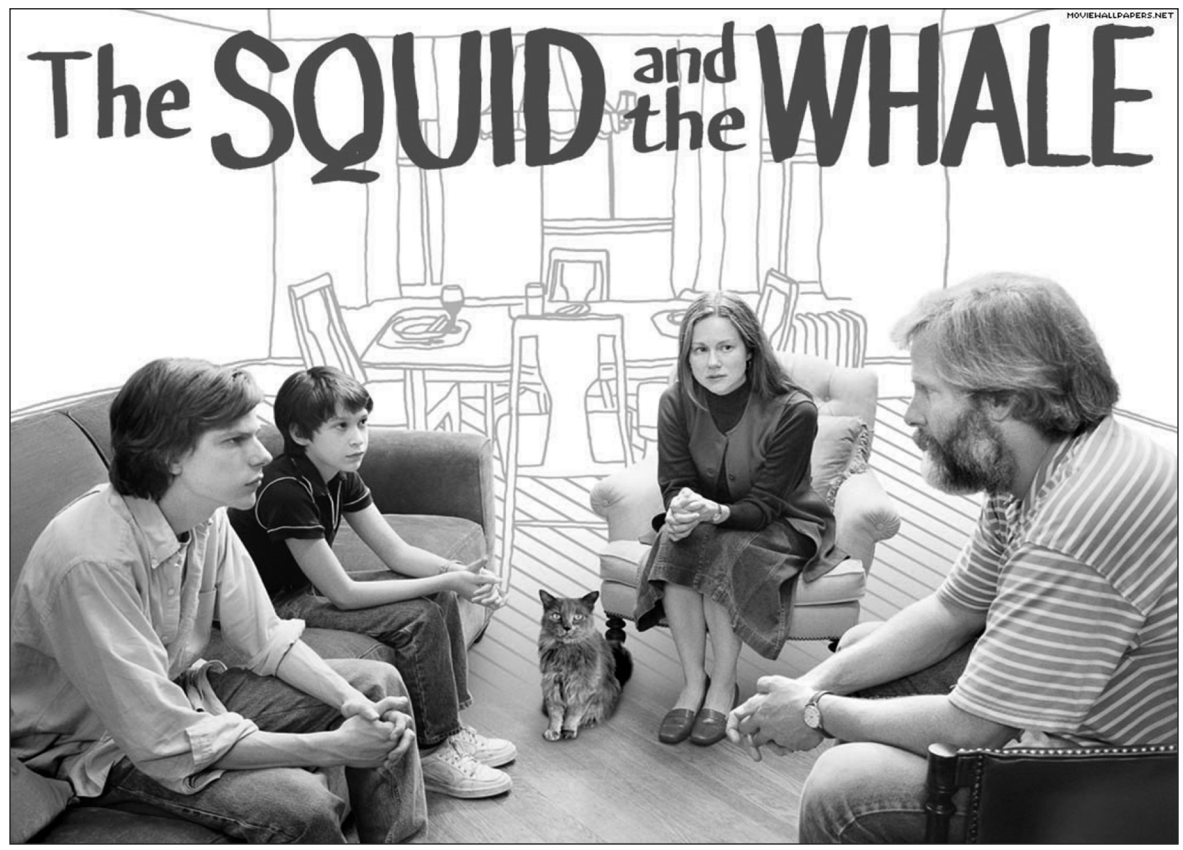
However, before achieving mainstream success, he wrote, directed and produced a little film in 2005 called 'The Squid and the Whale'.

'The Squid and the Whale' tells the darkly comic and profoundly sad tale of the Berkman family.

Bernard (Jeff Daniels) and Joan (Laura Linney) Berkman are both writers, living in New York city with their two sons Walt (Jesse Eisenberg) and Frank (a fantastic Owen Kline).

When the two heads of the family get divorced, the children are the ones who receive the majority of the backlash.

Walt,16, idolizes his father believing him to be one of the great writers of New York, instead of the philandering English teacher that he actually is.



"Jeff Daniels (left) and Laura Linney (right) test the bonds of family in The Squid and the Whale."
Submitted Photo

After discovering that his mother had been carrying on an affair for years, Walt moves in with Bernard, while his brother goes to live with Joan. Frank, 10, is frankly -pun definitely intended- a mess.

He steals his father's alcohol routinely and compulsively masturbates in public vicinities around his school, resulting in numerous detentions and suspensions.

If you can't see it already, no one in this film is in an ideal situation. Featuring a strong plot, a well-written script and gorgeous scenes of a decaying New York City, the movie itself is simply phenomenal. However, what makes it truly great is the cast.

Jeff Daniels and Laura Linney play off one another perfectly, both featuring an air of pompousness along with a certain grace to their character. While Linney certainly deserves her fair share of praise, it is Jeff Daniels who surprised me the most.

Sporting a massive beard that seems to have taken over the majority of his face, most of Daniels' performance is conveyed in his eyes. When Bernard is sad, the audience can see it in his eyes. When Bernard is angry, the viewer can witness his ocean-blue eyes slowly darken until they are black with fury.

Jesse Eisenberg (still a youngster in this film) plays an awkward, geeky teen without an ounce of sexual charisma or sense of humor.

However, despite these character traits, he pulls it off perfectly, because he is essentially playing himself (as well as practically every character he has played since, excluding, of course, his upcoming portrayal of supervillain Lex Luthor in the upcoming Batman v. Superman film).

Owen Kline, a relative newcomer and son of actor Kevin Kline, shines as the troubled and depressed Frank, a child struggling to grow up amongst a messy divorce.

'The Squid and the Whale' is an underrated gem, a movie that never tries to be more than it is. It acts as an ode to loneliness, set in a city that never stops moving.

NSU Symphony Orchestra is asked to do the impossible

Justin Vance
A&E editor

Enjoy Yourself." These words are now the official objective of the Northwestern State University Symphony Orchestra.

While everyone is busy going to classes on the first week of the semester, music students are already auditioning to play in the school's symphony orchestra. For three days, students encounter the daunting experience of performing alone in front of their professors.

Even students who have undergone this ordeal before still feel the same anxiety.

"The auditions are always a rather nerve-wrecking experience beforehand," veteran violin player Hammond Lake said. "However, once you meet the professors for the audition, they really help put your mind at ease."

Students aren't the only ones who have strong feelings about auditions.

"There is some excitement," conductor Dr. Bakenhus said while chuckling. "I'm always interested in hearing new people and discovering new players to play this music."

Even before the auditions there are obstacles to overcome.

The music selected each semester is designed to emphasize the strengths of the orchestra and its members, a difficult task to accomplish with the arrival of new players.

"When I pick the music in the summer I make it all tentative because I don't know who is going to be here," Dr. Bakenhus said. "Usually I have a feeling of relief knowing that we can perform the music."

Once the seating arrangement were decided and everyone had gathered, the traditional review of orchestra rules and proper etiquette followed.

Like all of the other music programs located in the center of Creative and Performing Arts, CAPA, an emphasis of professionalism is essential in training the performers of tomorrow: no texting, no skipping rehearsals and no nonsense.

Once the universal expectations were established, it was finally time to make some music.

Following the conclusion of the first official symphony rehearsal the seeds sown by both the students and the faculties' labors began to bear fruit.

While the first few songs were a bit rough around the edges, each section quickly began to get a feel for the music.

The seemingly random notes gradually blended into several strings of coherent melodies, and before long the true nature of the music began to appear.

Finally, the blend of new and old styles began to feed off of one another as the newer students gained more confidence and the more experienced players fell into their strides.

The orchestra has more than enough time to refine its new sound before the first concert on Sept.27.

Congratulations to the Interfraternity Conference Fall 2015 pledge classes!

Theta Chi Fraternity
Joshua Martin
Jamie Boteler
Kyle Hargrove
John Ham

Sigma Nu Fraternity
Craig Beilby
Tyler Corwin
Jarrod Coutoure
Carlos Cruz
Lyndon Knueppel
Tyler Kotowicz
Warren McFarlain
Houston Meller
Lucas Moncla
Tyler O'Donoghue
Parker Pastorello
Sonny Pynes
Ronald Reliford
Harry Rosa
Skylor Reese
Daniel Temple
Hunter Wamack
Tyler Wright

Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity
Christian Frost
Noah Baudoin
Chris Abbe
William Welch
Logan Purser
Shawn Christophe
Austin Lowther
Kevin Nguyen
Joshua Conn

Kappa Sigma Fraternity
Dylan Foshee
John Eagan
Joe Rodgers
Aaron Rodgers
Colt McCracken
Trey Lacoure
Jordon Fuque
Jordan Enloe
Carlos Patron
Logan Sepulvado
Martin Gould
Rowdy Burleson
Chase Tassin

Kappa Alpha Order
Blade Chris
Aaron Norris
Dakota Schudalla
Clint Oliver
Tanner Woodard
Sterling Barber
Brandon Phillips
Stephen Briscoe
James Friedman
Matt Broekman
Eli Durr
Sam Brandon
Lane Robinson
Blaine Reeder
CJ Boucher
Garrett Anderson
John Ashton Smith

Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity
Lane Barrett
Michael Phelps
Caine Warford
Joe Bradley
Cody Ratliff
Ty Carroll
Cody Ballard





Top left: Kappa Sigma Fraternity's newest class of 13 celebrates after its fall pledging ceremony. *Image by Nathan Magner*
Top right: Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity officially became a chapter at NSU last semester after a period of existing as a colony and welcomed seven new members as pledges on Sept. 1. *Image by John Pearce*

Q&A with Beau Russell

Interfraternity Conference President and Pi Kappa Alpha

Q: What was different about this year's rush in comparison to last year's?

A: Really, the only difference was the IFC Bid Day. Every male that decided to rush an IFC fraternity and knew what fraternity they wanted to join on the first Friday of school announced their name, hometown and fraternity choice in front of the entire Greek community. This definitely made the seven IFC fraternities work harder this summer.

Q: Did Bid Day turn out how you wanted it to?

A: It turned out very well for the first one! I think, every year, it will be bigger and better. I was happy to have been able to be here when the new tradition was started.

Battleship travels from the board to the WRAC

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Different organizations came together to recreate an old childhood board game favorite: battleship. Students collected in canoes while their opponents tried to sink them with buckets of water.

On Monday, Aug. 31, the Wellness and Recreation Activities Center held the Intramural-sponsored event at 2 p.m.

Participants were required to wear proper swimwear, and it was recommended that players knew how to swim. The Intramural, IM, department provided a three-person canoe, three gallon-sized buckets and one shield per team. Provided lifejackets and a certified lifeguard were also there for safety purposes while penalties ensured fairness around the board.

The object of the game was to have each team try to attack other canoes by using water-filled buckets to fill and potentially sink their opponents' canoes. Students used hands, buckets and shields to fend off in-coming water bombs while trying to "paddle" their canoes around the designated pool area.

"It sounds simple, but it's pretty difficult," sophomore Abigail Welch said after her team had been sunk.

Since there were no co-ed teams, first and second places were separately given to different girls' teams and boys' teams. For the girls, two groups of Tri Sigma girls took home the gold. First place included Nicole Stroud, Tess Leblanc and Caitlyn Juneau while Megan Maley, Brittany McConathy and Katie McCaulsin held second place.

Much like Tri Sigma Sorority, Sigma Nu Fraternity received both the first and second place titles for their boys' teams. Cody Wager, Austin Edwards and Caleb Fuse earned first place.

This was the first time NSU held this event. It lasted until 3:30 p.m., which gave each tournament a total of 45 minutes of playing time. For those who watched or waited for their tournament to start, they listen to the continuous playing of music by an event-sponsored disc jockey. It is still unknown whether or not this event will be made annual to repeat during future Demon Days.



Tri Sigma Sorority participated in the first intramural event of Battleship that could potentially become an aquatic tradition. Later, the sisters represented their wins of first and second place in the girls' tournament of Battleship by "throwing what they know." *Image by John Pearce*



Cooking with Vic

Travis V Carrell
Contributing Writer

It's time to cook an Italian favorite: spaghetti. This is one of my favorite meals. Both my mother and my mother-in-law can cook a spaghetti meal that always makes me go back for a second plate.

When I came to NSU, I knew I would need to find a way to make my favorite meal. Surprisingly, something as simple as tomato and pasta can taste like the food of the gods when it's homemade.

Let's get down to business. As a principle, I prefer to buy ingredients that are the same brand, so I specifically bought Hunt's tomato sauce, paste and diced tomatoes to make sure the tastes jived well.

When preparing the dish, I recommend that you dice up half a bell pepper and half an onion beforehand. You don't want to rush while using a blade. If you don't want to cry while dicing the onion, stick a stainless steel spoon in your mouth. I am not sure how this trick works, but it's the advice I'm told.

The first step is to prepare the meat. Toss ground beef or turkey into a pot and heat it until the meat browns. Then, add the tomato paste, sauce, diced tomatoes, diced bell pepper and onion. Keep this on the stove simmering.

Now, you need to boil the pasta. While doing this, consistently check on the sauce and stir it frequently. Once the water is boiling, you'll want to add however much pasta you will actually eat. I recommend using your thumb and index finger to gauge about an inch diameter of pasta.

While everything simmers and boils, add whichever type of seasoning to the sauce that tickles your fancy. You can taste test the noodles to tell when they are done before you drain them. Pasta doesn't keep when frozen.

If you are just cooking for yourself, the amount you cook for yourself should be way more than enough for you, so I recommend either having friends over to help finish it off or freezing the leftover sauce.

Even when you're miles apart from your hometown, the comforts from your home kitchen are never far away. Sure, it's not as easy as having Mom cook it for you, but it's the effort that you put into the cooking that makes the food good.



Top photo: The Gamma Chis, otherwise known as sorority recruitment counselors, are pleased with the results of their duct-taped shirts. Bottom photo: Gamma Chis Amanda Boudreaux and Chelsea Maielli fork 'em! *Images by Gabby Gomez*



University colors change to rainbow for a day

Megan Boyanton
Life Editor

In three short years, Color Chaos transformed into an event integral to Demonland's back-to-school rituals.

On Aug. 25, 2015, hordes of attendants gathered at the field on Organization Row to take part in the Welcome Week's messiest school activity.

While the event was scheduled to start around 6 p.m., seasoned participants began lining up to collect bright wristbands and goggles as early as 5:15 p.m.

Additionally, 200 free Color Chaos t-shirts were passed out to the first-arrivals.

Living up to its name, the First Year Experience event involves sprinting and slathering fellow students with 150 gallons of paint—donated to the cause.

After the rules were explained, the enthusiastic crowd of students tore through the caution tape and started smearing paint on each other, only pausing to refill the garbage cans and prepare for a second round.

One of the university's most recent investments— drones with attached cameras— flew overhead and captured the live-action video footage.

The university's reception to the event was "positive," said senior Brett Stephenson after seeing that there were more than 700 people in attendance.

"This is the third year they have put it on, and it has grown into one of the favorite events during Welcome Week," he said.

During this game, participants were encouraged to splatter the pristine white letters provided by Kappa Sigma Fraternity on the sidelines during their frenzy.

Other Greek members sported their letters, often duct-taped to the chests or backs of their white shirts, in what's become a tradition for the event.

It allowed for the opportunity for Greek recruitment when it came to catching the eyes of the university's underclassmen.

Those who abandoned their sloppy endeavors grabbed a plate of barbequed chicken and listened to the live music of Kopacetic, a talented young band whose members are a part of the Demon family.

When the paint began to dry, students turned to the free water slide and outdoor showers to clean up.

"Color Chaos was a complete success," junior Tre Nelson said.

"There was great music, amazing food, and, of course, gallons upon gallons of paint to be thrown. This was my second Color Chaos and I look forward to attending them as long as I am at NSU."

In past years, Northwestern had an issue involving an inactive student body partially due to its large population of commuters.

Since the arrival of Dr. Jim Henderson, president of NSU, though, more money has gone toward recruitment and student life, and more students are engaging with on-campus activities.

"I have watched Northwestern grow and change significantly for the better over the past three years that I have been here," Stephenson said.

"More and more events, like Color Chaos, have made campus life more enjoyable, and I hope that the university will continue to come up with more great events to encourage student involvement."

Students clean up community for wedding

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

Hard work is no sweat for the Northwestern students who partnered up with community workers to give the Natchitoches community a beauty treatment. The project was at Beau Jardin, a newly constructed water feature and garden on the downtown riverbank within the Historic District. Specifically, students were in charge of laying down pine straw for a wedding.

Among the NSU volunteers was junior Gia-Caroline Weber. "I was a member of the President's Leadership Program and they started off with us volunteering and us being active in our community," Weber said.

After Weber's first year working as a member of the Presidential Leadership Program, PLP, she decided to continue approaching her sponsor, Reatha Cox, for more service projects. She said Cox has lots of projects for her to do both on and off campus.

Weber grew up volunteering and finds the service satisfying. "I just try to keep that spirit up," Weber said. "It's just personal gratification. I do enjoy helping other people, of course. I am a becoming a nurse." She described her actions as just spreading out pine needles for the moment, but with the thought of somebody one day having a wedding where she stood, she didn't want it to be a muddy mess.

Another Demon volunteer was Tri Sigma sorority member Lindsey Prewitt. "My sorority loves to do service projects," Prewitt said. "So when I had the opportunity to do a service project around town, of course I was going to come out and help."

Prewitt thinks the service work was beneficial for people in town as well as NSU students. She also thinks service projects encourage comradery among students and others participating while serving as a great way for them to get to know each other.

"It's a beautiful day; it just makes me feel better to give back," Prewitt said.

These eager volunteers adjusted their gloves while listening to directions given by landscaper John Harris. For almost 15 years, the landscaper has worked the Natchitoches grounds.

"I am basically in charge of everything green," Harris said. "Every plant you see, I am involved with. We are very fortunate that we have the historic district. There are only two historic districts in the state of Louisiana. One is the French Quarter, and the other one is here."

Harris said he is used to working alongside volunteers. Back in New Orleans, he worked with around 80 volunteers once. "I love my volunteers. They do stuff like this, they have fun and they get outside. You also get to meet some very interesting people," he said.



Top photo: Among the volunteers were sorority women from different sisterhoods on campus committing their time to service. Their job included preparing for an upcoming wedding ceremony by maintaining the grounds. Bottom photo: The site is located in downtown Natchitoches. *Images by Essie Hullaby*





What changes have you made since coming to NSU, or how has NSU changed you?



"I definitely think I'm more mature. NSU has taught me how to handle all kinds of situations. I can work with different people more easily."

Leah Douglas
Senior, English



"I'm more outspoken than what I used to be. NSU has really taught me how to speak my mind. Now, I'm really involved on campus. I feel like I'm in everything."

Jajuan Broussard
Senior, Criminal Justice



"My studying habits have changed tremendously; I know what to do now. Socially, I think I'm just more outgoing. So much has changed since I've been a freshman."

Jakia Stevenson
Junior, Social Work



"I'm creating a routine and learning how to balance my days. Now that I'm not in high school, I have less of a fixed schedule. I like it."

Amanda Simmons
Freshman, Pre-Medicine

Reflections: My first week

"Get messy, get involved and make memories"

John Hurt
Freelance Writer

I'm a goof with a habit of putting my foot in my mouth. I've made my fair share of mistakes. Unfortunately, I'm not Doc Brown or Doctor Who, so I can't go back in time and correct those mistakes with the help of my time traveling DeLorean DMC-12 or a supernatural phone booth. What I can do is share some wise words that helped me get through my first week.

With my square-toed boots, costa caps and Hollister shirts, I was nervous about fitting in with other NSU students. My buddy, Travis Bastow, started attending college before me, and he told me to be myself and everything would be okay. It took some time, but I realized Bastow was right. In my opinion, all freshmen should take this advice.

Coming from Saline, La., a person's image was everything. My high school graduating class had only 16 people, so either you fit in or you didn't.

In the past, I struggled with studying because I always had a half-baked scheme to get the pretty girl in class. I couldn't focus. Another friend of mine, Jordan Theus, taught me the key to staying focused and on task: setting goals.

Without Theus, I probably would've flunked out of high school. Staying on task is imperative to being successful in school. Putting off stuff then "winging-it" like I did will drop your grade point average like a lead brick. Your professors want to help you succeed if you're willing to work for it.

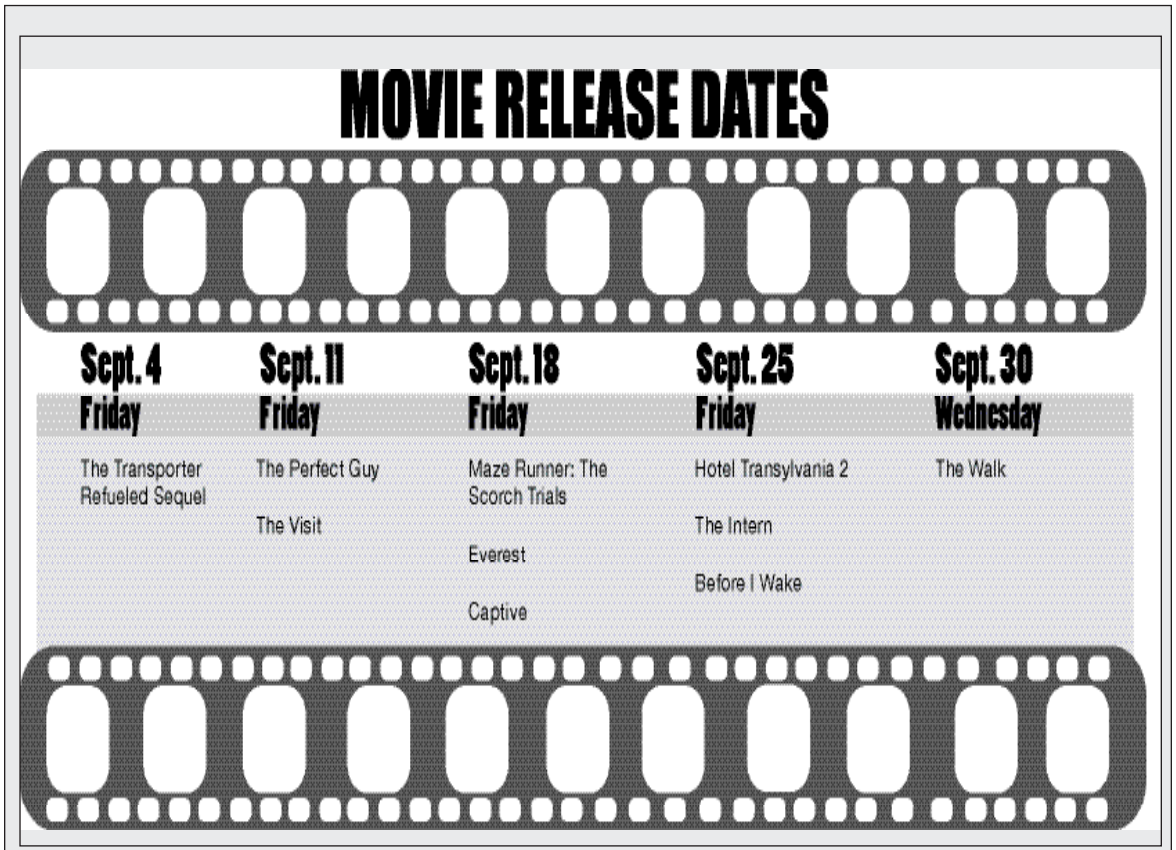
Another thing I noticed when I arrived at NSU was that it was a brilliant mixing pot. The people from my home town openly express their faith without the fear of being judged or offending others. Again, I was scared I wouldn't fit in. My cousin Bethany Straub helped me out with this piece of advice: keep calm and let God handle it. She also introduced me to some people at the BCM people who helped me.

You may or may not be religious like me, but, in my opinion, everyone needs to connect with another, like-minded person. Don't be shy and explore the people around you. Making friends will help you through many difficulties you might encounter in college. The value of such people cannot be measured.

The last person who helped me through the transition to college was Maura Pellerin. She advised me to be content with what I have and seize each moment. At first I didn't follow her advice, but then I had an amazing revelation. If we don't take the bull by the horns, we'll miss all the fun opportunities here like football games and color chaos.

I hope these wise words will help you in some way like it has helped me through the first week. We might not have a time-traveling DeLorean DMC-12 or a supernatural phone both yet, but take advantage of the on-campus fun. Get messy, get involved and make memories because you only live once. Focus on your studies and take the chance to be yourself. It'll all work out to be okay in the end.

P.S. Oh and don't forget to cheer on the Demon sports teams until you're too hoarse to talk the next day. Fork em'!



Check out these September releases in the theater soon! *Graphic by Hannah Fulton*





Taste-E-Vapes employees Sydnee Wyer and Bridget da Gama are excited to start serving gourmet coffee. The restaurant prepared to serve customers coffee by purchasing a top-of-the-line espresso machine.

Photo by Alec Horton

Taste-E-Vape: Escape dementors with caffeine and free Wi-Fi

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

I prefer a mountain of foam on my cappuccinos. Experienced baristas call this "extra dry." It's the kind of fancy coffee you see on Pinterest with a caption that says "How to make a lavender basil quinoa mocha." Pinterest is a wonderful, yet ridiculous website.

I've been on the lookout for decent coffee ever since I've moved to Natchitoches, and I really mean decent. I'm not expecting Pinterest-level latte art, just a caffeinated beverage that will inspire me to write a 10-page paper that is soul-draining like a dementor.

I'm unproductive in libraries. Being in a quiet and dark place for hours makes me feel like a prisoner with no escape route. I prefer to accomplish a tedious task in the most relaxing and fun way possible, which is why coffee shops are the ideal study spots for me. I need extra dry cappuccinos for those extra dry papers. I need mountains of foam and a never-ending supply of caffeine.

After two years of being in Natchitoches, I have finally found the decent coffee I've been looking for. This summer, a coffee and vape shop called Taste-E-Vape opened on South Drive. I visited on Tuesday and ordered a hazelnut cappuccino with a double-shot of espresso. While enjoying my tasty cappuccino and shaking under the influence of caffeine, I realized that Taste-E-Vape was an ideal environment for writing those soul-draining papers.

"I need extra dry cappuccinos for those extra dry papers. I need mountains of foam and a never-ending supply of caffeine."

For one, there is NSU paraphernalia everywhere. It's impossible to forget about homework with Vic's gaze constantly on you. There is free Wi-Fi and and a 10 percent student discount, which eases the pang of guilt after buying multiple lattes on a college budget. Plus, the staff is friendly, and I don't think they would be judgmental if you started crying about how you are literally just now writing your entire paper the day before it's due.

Taste-E-Vape is an ideal place for students that like coffee and Wi-Fi. You will enjoy Taste-E-Vape and probably spend more than what is frugal for a college budget on several cups of cappuccino.

Taste-E-Vape is located at 107 B South Drive behind PayDay Advance. It is open Monday through Saturday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Not new but new-to-you: Views of a transfer student

Jordan Baird
Contributing Writer

If you are a transfer student, you can easily agree with me that switching schools just as you became comfortable with your first one is quite a difficult transition. New faces, a new city and new instructors are just a few of the things that you encounter.

Just as you thought college was getting easier and that you had the "hang of it," you are shot right back down to the bottom of the totem pole, classified a "freshman" just because you are new.

You must quickly find your place with the people you mesh well with and most likely you are the oldest person in your friend group because upperclassmen don't associate with "new comers." Well, being new to a campus does not mean a person is new to college.

This transition is something I have needed to take one day at a time. It was particularly easy for me to find friends because I am on the dance line. Their kind, welcoming faces led me to meet many people who I now have classes with and see around campus often.

If you find yourself struggling to find people to spend your off time with, try joining a team or getting involved with Greek life. Intermingle and see where it takes you.

In my opinion, people shouldn't sit around and wait to find people who are going to be friendly. College is too busy and hectic for people to meticulously search for each other.

Same thing applies to your new instructors. Don't be shy. Transfers have gone through the college scene before and know what it takes to make good grades. Get to know your new instructors because they can be beneficial to you and provide you with life-long friendships or advice that you may one day need.

Another new thing all transfers encounter is direction. Arriving on move-in day and not knowing a single street name or good place to have a lunch date can be extremely overwhelming. So, in my opinion, the best way to prevent yourself from being directionally challenged is to get out there and find things yourself.

Letting your new friends drive you everywhere is also a recipe for disaster. There is nothing wrong with going on a drive. Enjoy the scenery. Try getting lost and maybe you'll end up somewhere beautiful in the new town you once thought was terrifying.

I find myself wandering to new places often and next thing I know I have a weekly hole-in-the-wall lunch spot and a waitress who knows me by name.

Don't be afraid of the unknown or the adventure when it comes to transferring. Embrace everything when it comes your way. Make new friends, befriend your instructors and take long drives around this unknown city. Before you'll know it, you are graduating from your newly transferred school. You have time left to enjoy college, so make the most of what is left.

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Demons prepared for White Out

Sports Information Directory

In a 69-minute mock game Thursday evening, the Northwestern State football team faced no physical challenges while handling virtually every mental test with flying colors.

The Demons, who open the season at home on Thursday with a Southland Conference showdown against Southeastern Louisiana, trotted through "about every scenario known to man, or at least, football coaches," chuckled third-year Demons' coach Jay Thomas, about to start his ninth season as a college head man.



There was more emphasis on execution while NSU went through its pregame warmup routine for the first time. Once the mock game began, every play was prescripted, presenting the Demons with a range of outcomes leading to the next snap.

Things went exceedingly well for the home team.

"About the only adversity we faced was making sure the personnel got out on the field, the ball got spotted correctly, and we did the countdown and sang the fight song right at the end of the game," Thomas admitted.

While all four contenders for the starting quarterback job took turns with different offensive units, the Demons made repeated trips to the end zone and came up with a string of turnovers defensively. Plays and defensive schemes for each scenario were sharply signaled in, substitutions and sudden change situations reviewed in a normal game flow, while nobody ran close to full speed for anything past a few steps.

Thursday's session was completely about the mental side of the game, and team operations in a game setting. Even the scout team performed well.

"Our scout team did a really nice job. Our graduate assistants did a great job of setting up the scout team and that made it one of the smoothest mock games I've ever been around," said Thomas.

When the contest wrapped up, with the offense running the Demon Victory formation, players and coaches gathered in front of the Spirit of Northwestern marching band's section in the east stands at Turpin Stadium and did the Demon Countdown – chanting in unison the number of points they scored in the game. Prompted by Thomas, the team rapidly counted to 100.

"I was out of breath past 50 points, but I'd like to try it again sometime," he said. "That got everybody's attention and we had fun with it, so much that we sang the fight song on both sides of the stadium."

"A good way to end camp and a good way to lead into the work ahead next week," he said.

After 24 practices, NSU capped preseason work. For the first time in his head coaching career, Thomas is giving the players two straight days off before convening for the first game-week workout Sunday afternoon.

"Friday's still a work day for the coaches. The players will have a stretch and relaxation period tomorrow, but the coaches are finalizing game plans," he said. "Saturday, all of us need a break. It's been a great camp, we've worked hard, and we all need to step away and come back Sunday refreshed."

2015 Football Roster

Matthew Flores RB
JeMarcus Marshall DE
Nick Fabrizio WR
Ralpheal Green CB
Adam Jones S
Daniel Taylor RB
Isaac Warren CB
J.D. Almond QB
Lyn Clark LB
Joel Blumenthal QB
Chase Collins S
Ed Eagan WR
Ryan Reed S
Austin Skinner QB
Glenn Irons WR
Joseph Mobley CB
Tuff McClain WR
Stephen Rivers QB
Devonta' Allen LB
Bryson Bourque WR
Wilbur Myers LB
Shakeir Ryan WR
Daniel Hazlewood QB
Desmond Lacey S
Cody Jones WR
Bobby Chan-Chan WR
Chris Jones RB
Shane McLendon CB
Jared West RB
Brian Joseph S
Nicholas Forde RB
Ian Edwards CB
Jahvez Barnes S
De'Mard Llorens RB
Darius Poullard S
Manuel Mukes IV CB
Nigel Dora RB
D'Ronne Littleton CB
Christian VanBuren LB
Charles Vaughn III TE
Darian Raymond DB
Caviaan Rachal CB
Jermaine Walker Jr CB
Andy Wickman P/PK
Marco Richard WR
Chris Moore PK
Brandon Monrose WR
Sylvester Grimble CB
Peyton Guidry LB
Hunter Bedgood RB
Shawn Stephens LB
Roderick Ross LB
Diontre Thomas DE
Cody Nelson LS
Jonathan Lewis OL
Jakobi Malone LB
Dannie Harmon DE
Desmond Prejean DE
Brice Borgeson LB
Ron Perry LB
Robert Fabrizio LB
Cameron Hussey C
Ryan Woehlert LS
Timmis Bonner OL
Paxton Cook LB
Jacob Merriman LB
Sam Forest LB
John Shelton PK
Frank Boudreaux OL
Thomas Little OL
Zach Schumann OL
Andrew McAlister OL
Okezie Adim-Madumere LB
Hunter Perrin OL
Randy Woodle DT
Clay Wiley OL
Patrick Juneau P/PK
DeMarcus Drumgo DT
Jonathan Hubbard OL
Terrance Boyd Jr. OL
Korliss Johnson OL
Houston Meller OL
Chris Zirkle OL
Dustin Burns OL
Andrew Bluiett DT
Pace Murphy OL
Delryn Wilson OL
Marlon Horne WR
William Mafi WR
Damien Boone WR
Deshon Ficklin WR
Cameron Lazare WR
Chase Hawthorne TE
Zach White TE
Darrien Batiste DE
Charlie Matthews DL
Leroy Armstrong DE
Zane Bush DT
LaAllan Clark DE
Isaiah Wheeler DT
Cameron Hooper DE
Kyle Adams OL
Dalen Morgan DL
Josh Roberts DT
Garron Featherston DT

Llorens expecting 'good vibe' from fans

Reginald Williams
Sports Reporter



De'Mard Llorens

As a high school athlete, you can only hope to get a scholarship, go to college and proceed to play at the next level. Not many get this opportunity, and even less get the chance to play in their hometown.

A local Demon football star, De'Mard Llorens, has been experiencing this special feeling. Running back Llorens is a Natchitoches homegrown standout that played high school football at our very own Turpin Stadium for Natchitoches Central High School. Playing college ball in your hometown in front of family and friends, not soley the student body, can provide an extra incentive to play as hard as you can to get the victory.

"Playing in front of family and friends gives you a good vibe and lets you have a good support system behind you," Llorens said, when asked about playing in front of his hometown family and friends.

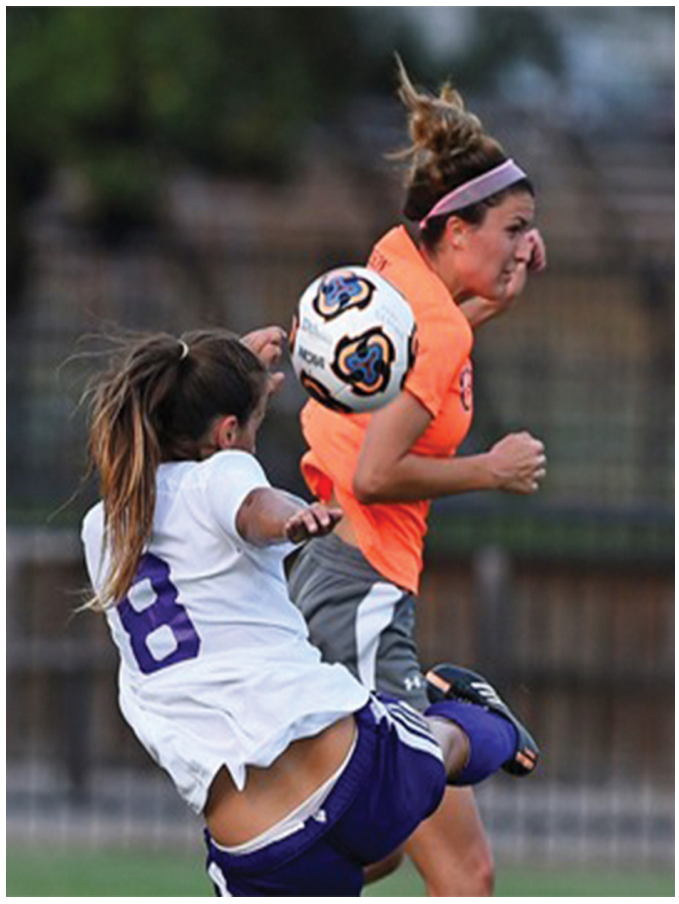
Though serving as a motivating factor, Llorens also noted that playing in your hometown can also bring immense pressure to perform well.

Tomorrow, the Demons will take the field to start the 2015 season against in-state conference rival Southeastern Louisiana in what should be a challenging contest.

Southeastern, who has been a national powerhouse the last few seasons, will serve not only as the first game of the season but also the first conference game for the Demons.

"We don't try to separate them from any other team, we are going to come out, run the ball hard and produce," Llorens said.

Being that Southeastern has been ranked nationally, beating the Lions would give the Demons an upper hand in conference play and momentum that could propel the Demons into the FCS playoffs.



Junior midfielder Patry Carrion lobs a kick in the air during their previous match. The Lady Demons had seven corner kicks against the Tigers along with 15 shots on goals. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Lady Demons quick olimpico goals shutout Jackson State, 4-0

Ben Wellman
Sports Writer

"We've been working on corner kicks for a couple years now, and three goals off corner kicks is almost as many as we score in a year," Lady Demon soccer head coach George van Linder said.

This was one thought fourth-year van Linder had of his team's 4-0 victory at Jackson State. The victory over the Lady Tigers brings the Lady Demons' season record to 2-1-1.

Senior Cassandra Briscoe was the main provider from the corner. She provided assists to team's leading scorer, Kayleigh Phillips, while Brittany Caserma also scored directly from a corner herself, which is known as an "Olimpico."

Phillips opened the scoring in the 27th minute. An errant back pass by a Lady Tiger defender towards the goalkeeper was deflected by Briscoe, and she was able to guide it into the path of an onrushing Phillips for the winning goal.

"Kayleigh, as always, was in the right spot," Briscoe said. "Give credit to a physical and athletic Jackson State team, but once we adjusted, we were able to find our rhythm."

"I've always been taught to not stop until the ball is out of bounds," Phillips said. "The first one, Cass pressured the goalie and somehow got it to me."

Briscoe put the exclamation point on the game in the 32nd minute, when her Olimpico doubled the visitors' advantage and sent them into halftime with a 2-goal advantage.

About five minutes into the second half, Phillips scored her second of the game, which brought her season total to 4, the most on the team. This time, junior Camila Ardila was the provider from the corner, as her corner was inch-perfect for the head of Phillips, who was able to redirect it towards goal to put the Lady Demons up by 3.

In the 66th minute, Briscoe returned to the corner to provide one more assist. Her corner kick found Caserma, who was able to direct the ball towards goal for her second of the season, which gave the Lady Demons the 4-0 victory.

The game was also the first shutout of the season for the Lady Demons. Goalkeepers Brooke Bourbonais, a senior, and Alex Latham, a sophomore, each played a half and kept the home side off the board.

"We're excited to get a lot of players in the game today, and the level didn't drop off at all," van Linder said. "The younger players had some really nice moments."

The Lady Demons will finish their road trip against in-state universities as they will travel to UL-Monroe on Sept. 4 and to UL-Lafayette on Sept. 6. They will return home on Sept. 8, when they welcome Alcorn to Natchitoches for a 7 p.m. match.

NSU WRAC Fall Group Excercise Schedule

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 – 8:50 AM	Power 50 *Dontavius*	Barre *Coy*	Power 50 *Dontavius*	Cardio Sunrise *Coy*	Power 50 *Dontavius*
9:00 – 9:50 AM	Pilates *Rebecca*	Yoga *Jennifer*	Eccentrics *Rebecca*	Yoga *Jennifer*	Zumba *Ebony*
4:00 – 4:50 PM		Total Body Shred *Dan*		Total Body Shred *Dan*	
5:00 – 5:30 PM	Tabata *Dontavius*	Extreme Core *Riley*	Tabata *Dontavius*	Extreme Core *Riley*	
5:30 – 6:20 PM	Pilates Fusion *Kirstin*	Pilates *Yonna*	Zumba *Ebony*	Gyrokinesis *Brett*	

The Fall Group Exercise Schedule will run from Aug. 24 - Dec. 17.

For more information on group exercise schedules & Fitness Assessment Lab, please visit us at wrac.nsula.edu or call at 318.357.5428.

NSU WRAC



Join KNWD, The Current Sauce and Potpourri while we broadcast overnight to celebrate White Out. Following the overnight broadcast, KNWD's Robert Carrier and Joshua Perkins will be in the press box broadcasting the game live for those unable to attend. You can listen on the radio at 91.7, online at www.knwdradio.org or on TuneIn Radio available on iPhones and Android phones. Joining them will be Emily Fontenot and Brian Cook from The Current Sauce. The game will also appear on NSU TV.

Graphic by Katelon Ramos

THE CURRENT SAUCE

City addresses long-standing water contamination Page 2
Records set after sorority recruitment Page 6
Student opinion on clerk's gay marriage stance Page 9
Lady Demons soccer ends streak after hard loss Page 11

NSU considers 'Wet' campus

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

It is time to finally reveal the truth to the two questions: Will beer be served at football games? Will the renovated alley in the Student Union become a bar?

Rumors about NSU becoming a "wet campus" circulated through the student grapevine since the football season hype began.

Technically, NSU is not a dry campus 100 percent of the time. During tailgating, alcohol is permitted for those who are of the legal age.

According to Dr. Marcus Jones, vice president of university affairs, these wet campus rumors are not out of the question: "It has been discussed and the administration is certainly not opposed to being open to the idea," he said.

Although the administration is not opposed, a cold beer at a football game is not in the students' future this semester. Director of Athletics, Greg Burke, clarified that even though the future is not certain, this football season follows current policies regarding sporting events.

"It is not likely that it will be initiated this season," Burke said. "Ultimately, I am fine with it. We want to to do everything we can to enhance the fan experience, and I know there's a desire for this on the student level and the adult level."

Jones said that the administration must strike a balance between the desires of the students, the concerns of underage drinking and the students' learning productivity. It is the same situation with converting the alley in the Student Union into a bar

"How the alley will be ultimately used is going to be primarily driven the by the students," Jones said. "When I was student, [the alley] was more of a hang-out space for young-and-upcoming artists to display their crafts. It may be a lot of that."

At this moment, the administration is addressing water damages within the alley, but the future of the space is primarily up to the students. If students want the alley to have a bar, the administration needs to hear about the student concerns.

"Our eyes and ears are always open to making changes for the overall good," said Burke. "While it can't happen this year, nobody's to say that it won't happen next year."



Photo by Gary Hardamon



There is enough sludge resting within the waters of Chaplin Lake for the City of Natchitoches to change their entire water filtering system. It will cost $2 million and the hope is that the new filtering system will keep Chaplin Lake clean without changing the system after the new filter is purchased and installed.

Photo by Alec Horton

Clean the crap out of Chaplin

Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

Sludge coats car engines and oozes from garbage disposals. So, what is it doing in Chaplin Lake?

According to the Clear Pond website, it is common for large bodies of water to contain clumps of organic sediment, animal feces and muck. To keep the water clean and safe for the ecosystem, the sludge needs a regular filtering. When the filter stops working, it'll either need replacing or changing.

Mayor Lee Posey said this is the third—and hopefully final—time they'll clean the lake. It was a chore the community needed to accomplish every ten years and it cost a large sum of tax dollars to fund it.

Now, after discussing it with the city council and NSU President, James B. Henderson, an even larger sum is being put forth to eradicate the problem for good. The City of Natchitoches is purchasing a $2 million clarifier system that they hope will filter Chaplin Lake without any need for changing.

"Chaplin Lake is one of the most beautiful parts of the NSU campus," Posey said. He wants to preserve one of the most beautiful, natural and historical features of his community while ensuring the safety of the people and wildlife in the area.

The job has already started, and it will continue for the next 262 days. If everything works out smoothly, Posey said he expects the lake to be completely finished by April 1.

The first phase of the clean-up will involve renovating the water treatment system while the second phase will involve dredging, cleaning and removing any trash and biological debris.

Fallen Officer honored

Leah Jackson
Press Release

Northwestern State University acknowledged the valor of fallen Shreveport Police Officer Thomas LaValley, a 2007 alumnus if the university, with the presentation of the Nth Degree to his family and the announcement of a scholarship established in his name. Members of the LaValley family were guests at NSU's home football game on Sept. 3, where they were recognized during pregame ceremonies.

In honor of the presentation, the Shreveport Police Department's Color Guard marched with NSU's ROTC cadets in posting the colors prior to the performance of the national anthem.

Law enforcement agencies, law enforcement associations and former colleagues of LaValley from throughout northwest Louisiana made contributions to establish the Officer Thomas LaValley Memorial Scholarship.

Captain Danny Dison, retired chief of the Bossier City Police Department and current director of security for Bossier Parish schools, did not know LaValley personally, but felt moved to honor his memory.

"It doesn't matter whether the officer is a friend or not," Dison said. "We all wear the same badge and are all in the same brotherhood and sisterhood."

The scholarship will be awarded to students majoring in criminal justice from Caddo, Bossier and Ascension parishes with preference to the sons and daughters of fallen officers.

LaValley was also recognized with a posthumous Nth Degree, a Northwestern State University honor that denotes meritorious service to mankind. The Nth Degree is presented to those whose professional responsibilities in making the world a better place are carried out to the Nth Degree. LaValley's was presented in recognition of his dedication to public safety and valor in the line of duty.

LaValley, 29, was killed August 5, 2015, while responding to a disturbance at a Shreveport residence. His alleged killer is facing first degree murder charges.

LaValley was born in Baton Rouge and graduated from St. Amant High School in 2003. At Northwestern State, he earned a degree in biology with a minor in journalism. Before becoming a police officer, LaValley worked as a videographer at KTBS. After graduating at the top of his class from the Shreveport Police Academy, he began working as an officer in 2011. LaValley was laid to rest in St. Amant after hundreds of supporters and officers from throughout Louisiana lined roadways as his remains made their way from Shreveport to Ascension Parish.

"This is a way for Northwestern to honor Officer LaValley and his loss to the NSU family and the community he served," said Drake Owens, executive director of the NSU Foundation.

Dude where's my statue?

Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

Another statue of Vic the demon will replace the one that stood outside Vic's in the Friedman Student Union. A faculty member within NSU's Creative and Performing Arts Department is making it. Keep an eye out!

For more information about the removal of the old Vic and the building of the new one, read it in next week's issue!
Have a question? Let us put a fork in it! Post it on one of our social media websites and you may see it answered in a future issue.

Phi Mu remembers life of Ashlee Edmiston

"To keep forever sacred the memory of those we have loved and lost"

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

The Kappa Iota chapter members have experienced a loss that has given them a perspective of what the Phi Mu creed really means.

Ashlee Michelle Edmiston, a sister of Phi Mu Kappa Iota, died on Aug. 7 at the age of 21.

Edmiston was a part of both the Greek and campus community. A recent graduate of NSU, she was the 2013-14 Intramural committee chairman in Phi Mu, winner of the 2013 Sigma Nu Homecoming Hunnies and a long-term girlfriend of a Sigma Nu Fraternity member.

At Edmiston's funeral, Phi Mu sisters had the opportunity to stand together and recite their creed to demonstrate its importance in their lives and in Edmiston's life as well.

To receive even more closure and pay respects, Phi Mu Kappa Iota also hosted a memorial service for Edmiston in Magale Recital Hall on Sunday, Aug. 23 at 8:30 p.m. Members of the fraternity wore white ribbons in remembrance of Edmiston, while guests—including family members, friends, and other visitors—were given green ribbons to wear during the service.

Other Greek organizations gave support and kindness to Phi Mu by writing letters, sending flowers, presenting their condolences and making an appearance at Edmiston's funeral. Sigma Nu also decorated a set of wooden letters in remembrance of her.

"To lend to those less fortunate a helping hand"—another line of the Fraternity's creed—is something that represents philanthropy and service. In an attempt to make the best out of the situation, both the Phi Mu and Sigma Nu fraternities are brainstorming several fundraising opportunities in memory of Edmiston to benefit each of their chapters through philanthropy or scholarship.

"This fundraiser is our way of honoring someone who meant a lot to both of our organizations," Melissa Cornett said. The funds that both fraternities raise will be split equally and half of Phi Mu's collections will be donated in Edmiston's name to the Phi Mu Foundation, which provides scholarships for its collegiate members.

An idea the two organizations are considering is hosting a concert next semester to attract students, though nothing is finalized yet.





"My pledge sister Ashlee had such an effect on those around her, and her absence is felt profoundly. She made her sisterhood proud everyday and still does. Her ridiculous athleticism, glowing smile and wild beautiful hair are sincerely missed."
-Megan Boyanton, junior

Phi Mu Fraternity alumna Ashley Edmiston was remembered by sisters and friends at NSU in a memorial service in Magale Recital Hall. The Phi Mu and Sigma Nu chapters at NSU are planning ways to celebrate her life through philanthropy and scholarship opportunities. *Submitted Photo*

There's a bike lock where my bike used to be:

Four bikes stolen within the first two weeks of fall semester

Rhiannon Dean
Contributing Writer

Northwestern started its fall term two weeks ago, but thieves are already on the prowl. While students are cracking open the books, thieves have been cracking locks.

"There have been four bikes that have been reported as stolen so far this year," Detective Douglas Prescott said. "Earlier this morning, three bikes have been recovered."

When asked where and how the bikes were recovered, Prescott declined to answer since the recovery of the bikes is still under investigation. Prescott encourages students to keep their bikes in a well-lit area.

"Check on bikes periodically. Don't just assume they will be where you left them." he said.

Monday morning, Scholars freshman SueZanna Albritton came back to campus from her three-day weekend to discover her bike was also missing.

"It was there Friday before I left, and it had been parked there for a little over a week since the handle bars were messed up," she said.

Albritton's grandfather had plans to fix her bicycle on Monday, but it was gone. That evening, she filed a police report with Officer Chalette who went with her to the rack where her bike was stolen.

"Make sure the lock goes through the frame as well as the tire," Chalette said.

"Some new bikes have a switch that allows you to get the tire off easily." He then demonstrated on a locked bike how the switch mechanism works. He also recommended for students to register their bikes with the police station and park their bikes in an area with lots of traffic.

How about putting your bike in your room? Housing director DeCarius Gillyard said that students can put their bikes in their rooms, but they cannot leave them in the common area.

Unfortunately, there are no cameras outside the buildings that look over the bikes that are parked outside of the dorms in the bike racks. Gillyard said to report any stolen bikes to the housing office as well, after filing a police report, so that they can file an incident report.

Tailgate Remixed

Students initiate new tailgate spot by bringing back an old tradition

Justin Vance
A&E Editor

The White Out game is a tradition enjoyed by freshman, upperclassmen and community members alike. To build anticipation for the event, each organization across campus promotes it.

This year, a forgotten tradition was brought back for the occasion.

Years ago, the campus radio station, KNWD 91.7 FM, did an all-night broadcast the night before the White Out game.

For added theatricality, this broadcast was done from atop Turpin stadium for 24 hours.

Inspired by the event, the current KNWD team decided to follow suit.

While the original intention to amplify school spirit was the same, this year's 24-hour broadcast was not as vertically daunting. It was conducted in the form of a tailgate. When the sun went down the Wednesday before the game, speakers were setup behind the field house, and music could be heard for the next 24 hours.

Over the span of the night, KNWD staff and other students interested in media were invited to participate either by attending or even bringing their own playlists to play on air.



Students gather around Vic at Pitchfork Pass, the new student tailgate area that debuted last Wednesday during the 24-hour broadcast and tailgate hosted by KNWD radio in preparation for Thursday's White Out game. *Photo by Jacob Contreras*

Attendance at the actual event was not mandatory to enjoy the broadcast portion of the event.

Musical requests and opportunities to win prizes — including tickets to the Voodoo Music Festival in New Orleans, La. this Halloween — could be sent in via social media.

At the actual event flashing lights and blaring speakers invited anyone interested to dance the night away with the KNWD staff. Even into the later hours of the night supportive friends and enthusiastic dancers kept the dedicated staff company.

The tailgate continued until 5 p.m. on the date of the game. When asked whether this would become an annual tradition, KNWD General Manager Katelon Ramos answered: "I think it would be super cool to make it a thing."

Like all things the all-night tailgate had its shortcomings.

"Obviously overnight is really hard to do," Ramos said. "If it had been a Friday like a normal football game it may have been different, having class the next day is understandable."

Celebrating Labor Day with Zydeco Festival

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

A warm sun sets on the Cane River during the 2015 Zydeco festival while hues of orange, pink and gold ripple across the water. Delightful aroma of festival food dances through the air accompanied by soul music.

A crowd of blended cultures comes together wearing boots, fringed tops, vests and leather jackets. Zydeco fans vary in every way possible.

This unlikely combination of people participated in the day's activities with high spirits in a relaxed, non-judgmental atmosphere. There is comfort in the vibe, food, and music. It feels like home.

Natchitoches local and Northwestern State University student Pearlie Jones sat and observed the spectacle. She explained how Zydeco is a universal celebration and how anyone can jump in.

"Here in Natchitoches, a lot of people in Cane River are good at Zydeco," she said. "A lot of us grew up 'Zydecoing.'"

She uses the word "Zydecoing" to symbolize a fusion of cultures from the past that has become a part of the locals' modern lives and traditions.

Essentials of the Zydeco Festival are food and dancing. It is why people return each year to celebrate.

"They love the food and good music and the dancing," Jones said.

Groups of people – who may have never met before this festival — dance in sync with one another. There are voices of encouragement for others to join in, or simply try, and have a good time.

Eventually, everyone began to line dance. Each person followed the music and each other's steps.

"People learn off each other," Jones said. "People from Lafayette and Natchitoches have the most distinct technique."

The sun sank lower in the sky as the artificial lights took over. Lasers and moving lights inside the roof of the performance tent circulated through the environment. The crowd was getting ready to party.

Even despite the hellish weather, the crowd remained full of energy. Jones said that even if the weather turned ugly, it wouldn't change anything.

"The weather doesn't affect anything when you are having fun," she said.

"5…4…3…2…1!" The headliner, Marcus Ardoins' band, illuminated the stage with their bold sounds. The energy rose as the spoon ran up and down the washboard and the accordion began to fold and unfold.

Ardoin encouraged everyone to get up and dance.

"Zydeco is a work out!" he said.

The band maintained high energy throughout their entire three-hour set. Zydeco bands are free form jam bands, which makes them entertaining to listen to and watch perform live. They could read each other and the crowd.

The accordion player hyped up the crowd with a modern hip hop style. Ardoin played the accordion and sang with smooth, classic vocals, seamlessly blending together like the cultures around them to create a genre of music for anyone to enjoy: Zydeco.

The night drew to an end, and music lingered in the air. The festival couldn't last forever. Everyone went home with batteries drained and stomachs full.

To queue or not to queue:

Seeking a friend for the end of the world

Hammond Lake
Student Writer

From the opening scene, "Seeking a Friend for the End of the World" welcomes its viewers with a ballad of tragedy and seclusion set in a modern-day apocalypse. However, though it may seem like this film's themes are plagued with cynicism, they are actually firmly rooted in romanticism.

It's a tale of seclusion, mirrored with friendship, presenting a time when all human interactions will soon cease to exist.

After learning that an asteroid is set to hit Earth, Dodge's (Steve Carell) wife left him for another man. Newly alone and with only three weeks to live until the asteroid arrives, Dodge decides he is going to wallow in self pity and live out rest of his days by drinking nothing but cough syrup and sitting alone in his apartment.

One evening, though, amidst the cough syrup and loneliness, he remembers his high school sweetheart, Olivia, who he believes now to be the true love of his life. Enter Penny (Keira Knightley), Dodge's downstairs neighbor who has recently broken up with her boyfriend and learned that she won't be able to catch a flight home to see her family before the asteroid hits. Brought together by unlikely circumstances, the duo decide to take a road trip to see Olivia, in hopes that she still has feelings for Dodge.

In a time when it seems as if an apocalyptic movie comes out every other week, it's hard to discover one that stands out amongst the rest. Due to the large budget usually required of this genre, studios produce the majority of these films. From the overblown "2012" to the devastatingly sub-par "San Andreas", most independent disaster flicks end up lost in obscurity behind these larger-budget productions.

However, instead of choosing to focus on the external catastrophe at hand, writer-director Lorene Scafaria opts to put an emphasis on the internal crisis occurring in the main characters, Dodge and Penny. For instance, the film has a hilarious scene when the pair is pulled over by a bumbling policeman named Wally Johnson while on the highway.

Both are subsequently booked in the local jail, with only about a week left on Earth. Johnson's superior discovers them in the holding cell and promptly lets them free, exclaiming how Johnson has been taking his quota more serious lately now that the world is about to end.

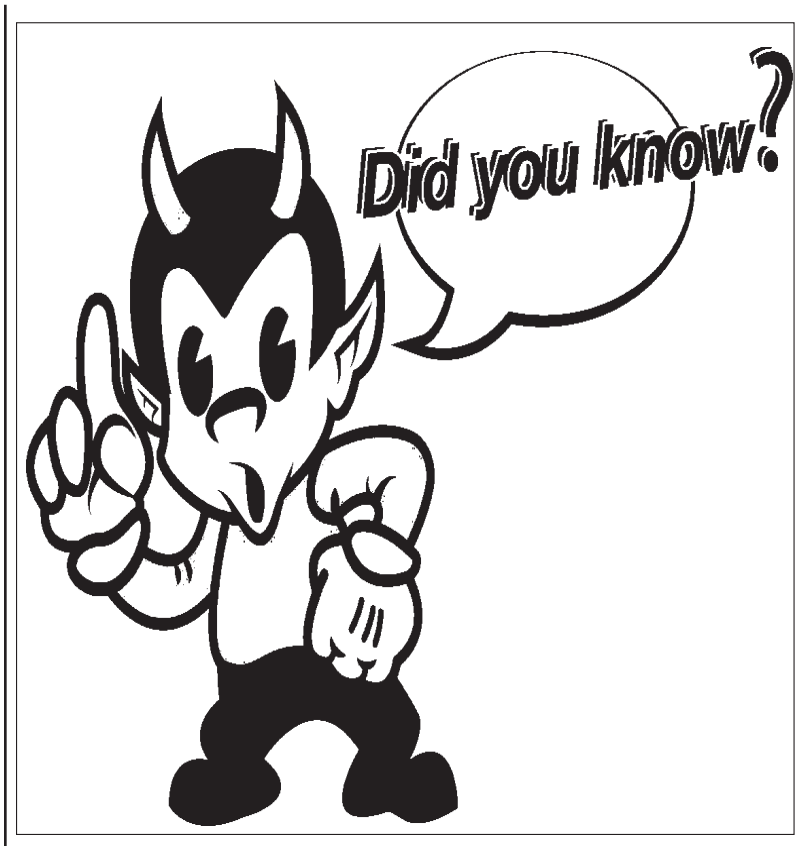
This tale can be heartbreaking at times, though, such as when Penny talks on the phone with her family, crying, after first learning that she won't be able to see them before the asteroid hits the planet.

"Seeking a Friend for the End of the World" works on several levels. It takes a big budget story and pulls it off by focusing on the humanity of the characters, rather than the overwhelming nature of the apocalypse. Although they are entirely different movies, I was reminded at times throughout this movie of the latest Christopher Nolan effort, 'Interstellar'.

While "Interstellar" was the more expensive and grandiose film, with special effects to spare, both "Interstellar" and Seeking a Friend operated on the same level. Both hold an unbelievable crisis happening in the skies above and yet the bulk of the plot is found on Earth, between characters who, despite their differences, discover each other at a time that is perfectly right for their bond to flourish.



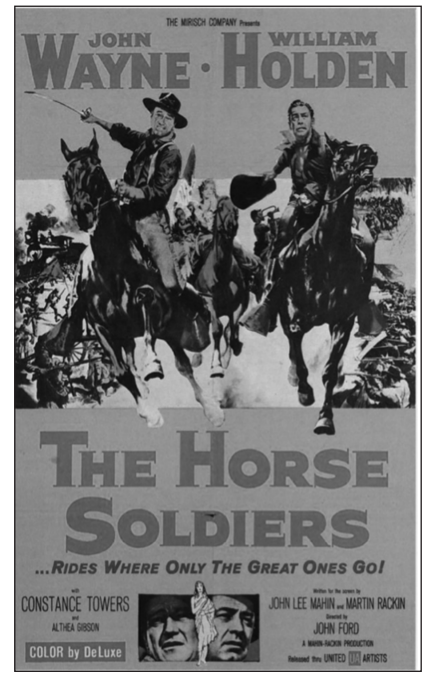
"Dodge (Steve Corell) and Penny (Keira Knightley) embrace the end of the world the only way a rational human being would." *Submitted Photo*



Before 'Steel Magnolias' were 'The Horse Soldiers'

Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

John Wayne marched through Natchitoches in the movie 'The Horse Soldiers' in 1959.



According to the IMDb movie archive website, the movie takes place during the Civil War when Colonel John Marlowe (John Wayne) is tasked with leading a Union cavalry division to destroy a Confederate railroad depot.

Marlowe faces challenges throughout the movie due to his frequent disagreements with the regiment's surgeon, Major Henry Kendall (William Holden) and with the presence of Miss Hannah Hunter (Constance Towers), a Southern belle who overhears Marlowe's secret plans and is brought along to prevent her from spreading the word.

Most of the exterior scenes of the movie were filmed in Natchitoches Parish and along the banks of the Cane River.

A bridge crossing the river served as the filming spot for a pivotal battle scene and some of the surrounding locals found themselves used as extras in the movie.

An additional interesting, but unfortunate, fact is that one of their stuntmen, Fred Kennedy, broke his neck when he fell of the bridge performing a horse fall and died.

The producer of the movie was so "devastated," according to a biography written by Joseph Malham, that he decided to end the movie on that bridge instead of filming its scripted end in Baton Rouge.

NSU National Panhellenic Conference reaches record house totals



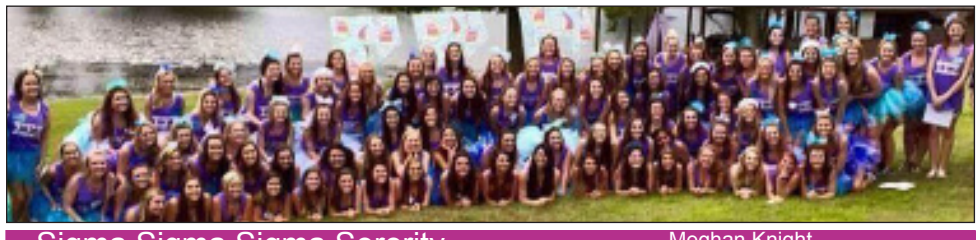
Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity

Kenzie Andara
Mia Bashay
Kaylee Bass
Morgan Burris
Netra Charles
Hailey Clark
Juliana Coletti
Rachel Edwards
Virginia Falgoust
Hailey Freeman
Kyrsten Freyou
Chelsea Girard
Abagale Godfrey
Maisyn Guillory
Alaysia Jaynes
Evandria King
Jessica Nolan
Savannah Phipps
Taylor Powell
Carson Rabalais
Maisie Rougeau
Maddie Sisson
Diana Smith
Kayla Sneed
Ashlan Stephens
JJ Stewart
Alyssa Vail
Brooke Warren
Kaylee Weakley
Erin Weaver
Soney Wheaton
Aleas Williams
Emily Williams



Phi Mu Fraternity

Sydney Anderson
Olivia Bridges
Karli Chambers
Carly Clark
Cece Clemons
Brittony Cole
Kennedy Cullen
Caitlyn Cutrer
Hanna Fontenot
Katie Gallinghouse
Kortney Greer
Ashtyn Hare
Karley Hebert
Jessi Herbert
Taylor Holloway
Haley Jett
Abby Martin
Malu Nishihira-Asuncion
Stephanie Parker
Maddie Pharis
Lauren Pope
Taylor Pullig
Kayla Richards
Kierstin Richter
Hannah Robertson
Htet Htet Rodgers
Marissa Roge'
Daniela Salas Ricardo
Catherine Shaw
Amanda Simmons
Caitlyn Touchet
Jenni Wilson
Caroline Wren



Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority

Ragan Able
Jennifer Arabie
Caroline Ayedelott
Andrea Boyd
Mackenzie Byrd
Taylor Campbell
Brandi Corkern
Brittney Cross
Caitlin Dauzat
Kara Davis
Kelcey Dubois
Peyton Ebarb
Emily Ford
Cobi Forte
Rachel Humphries
Peyton Johnson
Lexi Jones
Haley Jorgensen
Emily King
Kaitlyn Knight
Meghan Knight
Kenedy Lampert
Denae Landry
Kameron Landry
Katherine Langlois
Laney Latour
Emilee Leger
Mallory McConaty
Madison Milligan
Kacy Morace
Eden Parker
Anna Richardson
Taylor Roberts
Kelli Russell
Emily Salter
Brooke Smith
Sydney Swilley
Samantha Waters
Sarah Kay Whitehead
Morgan Woodle
Samantha Wynn

Kayla Ryan
Contributing Writer

Recruitment kicked off with "Recruitment Convocation," which was held in the freezing cold Student Union Ballroom right after the first pep rally of the season.

Over one hundred girls packed into the ballroom with nervous glances and pounding hearts waiting to see the agenda for the weekend ahead.

As the meeting began, Gamma Chis—women who come together, separate from their respected Greek organizations—were introduced, inspirational quotes spoken, and schedules placed into the hands of the excited young ladies.

The first official day began with check-in at the ballroom "headquarters" at 4:30 p.m. Ladies received their name tags and went to a series of three house parties hosted by the sororities on campus: Phi Mu Fraternity, Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority, and Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity.

After seeing the intricately decorated houses and meeting the beautiful ladies that resided there, the potential new members went back to the student union to rank which sorority they liked the best to the least.

The second day of recruitment, "Philanthropy Day," began bright and early Saturday morning. The ladies received their name tags along with a list of parties at sororities that invited them back. The maximum amount of invitations a girl could receive welcoming her for a second visit was three. By this time, the initial anxiety passed. Girls carpooled together to the houses where they waited to see the events about to occur.

Everyone was ushered into the houses to sit down, sip drinks and eat cookies. Each girl learned about the events the houses organized along with the fundraising events they put on for their select sponsored service organizations.

"There were a lot of girls going through recruitment this year, and even though it did make us a little nervous we were more excited than anything," Alpha Omicron Pi President Jessica Wells said.

The last day of recruitment was emotional since it involved the smallest amount of girls. These select few showed up to have the Preferential Tea Day. On this day, the girls visited only two houses to see their potential sisterhoods.

This day was the most personal day out of all the days. The sorority women dressed in their sorority colors, sang songs, and teared up as they shared their insight on their sisterhoods. The morning flew by and the anxious decision arrived for each girl to have a final say on her last two perspective sororities.

If the girls did not receive a phone call before 3 p.m. saying they did not get matched with a sorority, they reported back to the student union at 3:30 p.m. to pick up their bids.

"I think recruitment went extremely well for us," Phi Mu Recruitment Director Leighann Westfall said.

"I wanted our chapter to seek out sisters that lived out our values and I think we succeeded in doing so. If I had to pick a favorite day of recruitment, it would be preference tea because I love more than anything being able to share with others how special our sisterhood is and how Phi Mu can impact the lives of others."

Each bid was personalized by house it came from. Phi Mu's bids were circus-themed in an envelope with a decorative pink quatrefoil and the recipient's name on the outside.

Sigma Sigma Sigma's bids were "messages in a bottle," tied with a purple ribbon.

"Each sorority was able to get an awesome group of girls," Sigma Sigma Sigma Vice President Myranda Degraw said.

"This is my favorite time of the year because I love seeing how excited all of the new girls get going through the house. It's just the best feeling to welcome new girls into our sisterhood."

Alpha Omicron Pi's bids were intricately designed with textured card stock, cursive font and a burlap bow to seal it. After receiving their bids, the newly Greek women rejoiced with their friends who would now be their sisters.

Once all the young women received their bids, the fun moved to Prather Coliseum where they sat and waited for their leaders to reveal what house they called home. Each Gamma Chi rejoined their families and the words, "Ladies, go home," were spoken. At last, the girls ran into the welcoming arms of their new sisters.

House Totals

Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity: 109
Phi Mu Fraternity: 111
Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority: 111



Columnist Racheal Gaude exhibits her fashion sense. *Photo by Tyra Morrison*

Racheal's Weekly Fashion Features

Rachel Gaude
Contributing Writer

Throughout the semester, I will be scouting out rad looks, good vibes, and wonderfully worn trends. Each week, I'll post my finds, along with a "Q & A" with the featured wearer.

Give me your best, ladies and gents! I'll be watching!

Outfit of the issue by Racheal Gaude

The inspiration behind the outfit:
"I've recently learned to fall in love with the color black, so I've been experimenting with the many moods of black. I feel like this is the cheerful side because of the intricate flowers on the skirt. I'm also profusely inspired by festival wear (aren't we all suddenly into festival wear?), in case you can't tell."

Style advice:
"Stop the Birkenstock abuse! You're not supposed to wear them with Nike shorts! That's what Chacos and sneakers are for, not your Birks! I don't care how comfortable they are. No Nikes and Birks."

Vibe for the day:
"Let's not lie, dressing cooler than everyone else makes you feel cooler than everyone else. I feel much more indie than normal. This outfit also makes me really pumped for fall music festivals!"

NSU library 'throws back' to World War I

Alliyah Perry
Opinions Editor

The fates of some men during World War I were in the hands that drew their draft number. This first number was 258. It meant each man in the 4,577 selective service districts of the U.S. holding that number were the first men called to war.

This was the fate of the many men attending Normal College. Those students embarked on a journey to war, a journey not many returned from at that time.
In honor of the many who were affected during World War I, the Watson Library is giving students a chance to see what those soldiers experienced. Throughout the exhibit curious eyes can see many pictures, artifacts and keepsakes from the war.

Just outside the doors of the library are two cases including pictures of the soldiers and Camp Beauregard where many men were located. Almost everyone in the Natchitoches area came together, including the faculty and staff of the school, to make garments to send to the Normal Boys at war.

Through these photos, students can see how even the smallest act of knitting and sewing was a great help to the troops.

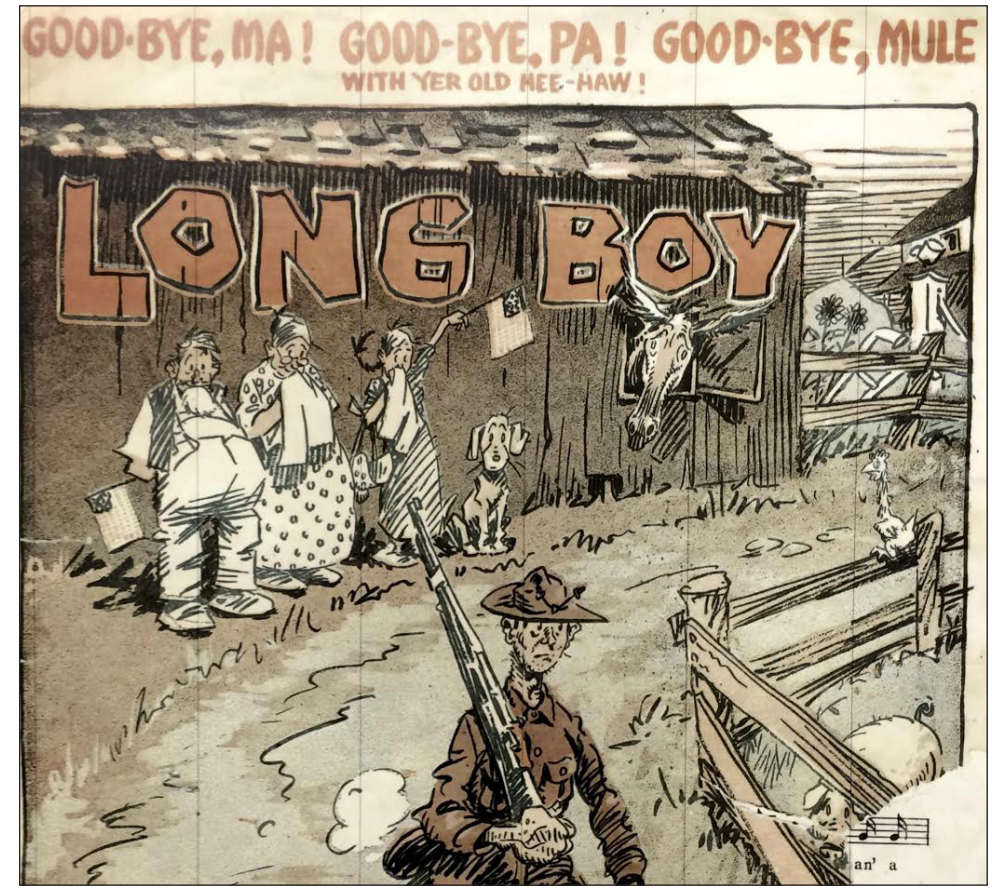
"Many women doing frontline Red Cross volunteering were also helpful toward the troops and also to many of the women who were training for nursing," said Mary Linn Wernet, university archivist. "The time of the war was also during the time of the outbreak of influenza."

A personal look at how people felt about the flu can be viewed in articles included in the exhibit. Two Current Sauce publications from 1918 and some pages of the 1919 Potpourri were dedicated to the Normal Boys who entered the Great War.

Students finishing off their tour stopPED by the last case and read the letter saying what many Normal Boys couldn't contain their happiness to read, "After honorably serving your country in a great war, you are about to embark for the homeland."

World War I was a very impactful period in the history of NSU. This exhibit gives students an opportunity to honor their veterans and the memory of those who gave it all—some including their lives—for their classmates and country. Visiting this exhibit is another way to observe history and, in the process, learn something new about the school they attend.

The Normal College and World War I exhibit is open August – December in the Cammie G. Henry Research Center, located on the third floor of the Watson Memorial Library. It is open Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. - noon on Fridays.



WWI-era music books are among the historic relics featured at the Watson Memorial Library about the effect on the Normal College. *Photo by Alec Horton*



Student Body Elections Sept. 22 - 24

Positions available
Student Government Association:
Senator-at-Large
(2 positions)

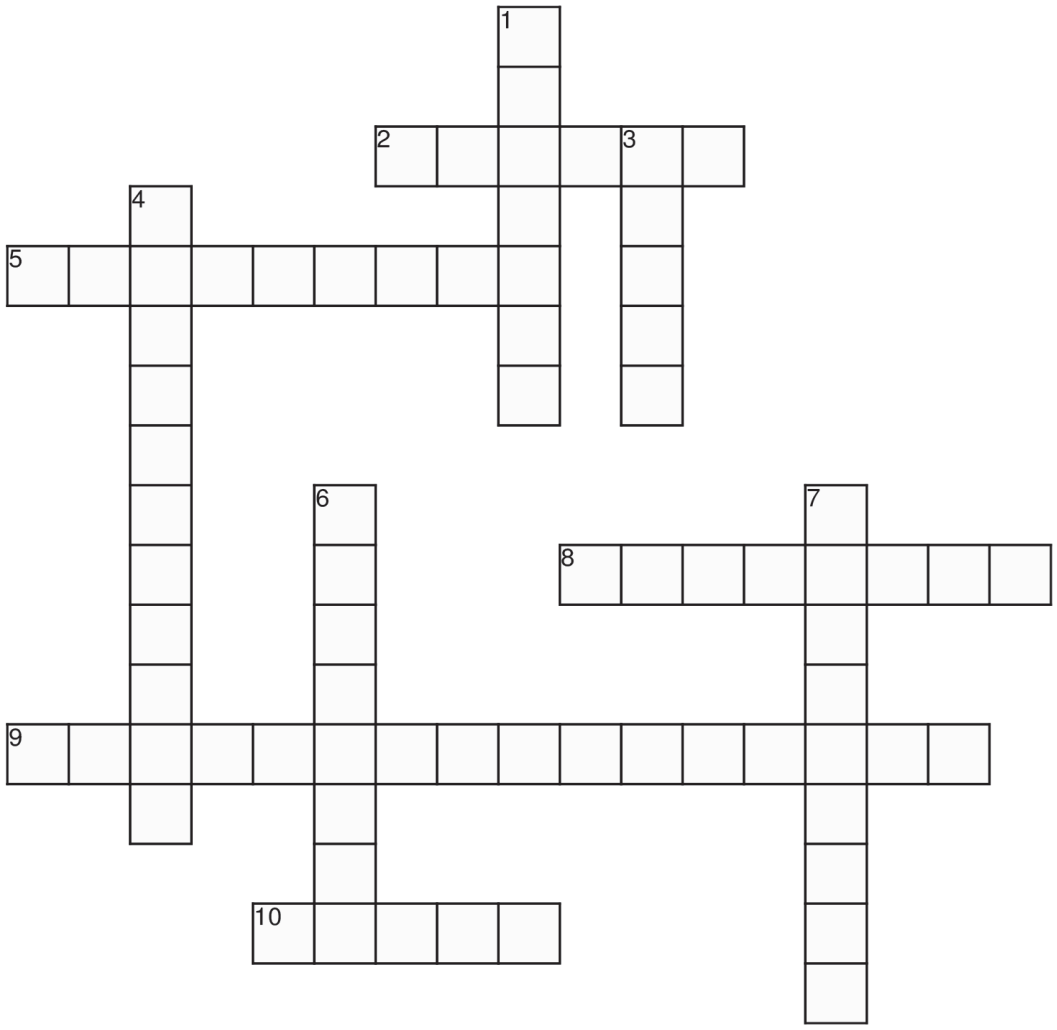
Student Activities Board:
Representative-at-Large
(8 positions)

Nominations for Homecoming Honor Court
(Must receive 4 RSO nominations)

Nominations for Mr. & Miss NSU
(Must receive 5 RSO nominations to interview)

POP QUIZ? Did you read?

Complete the crossword below



Across

2. When will clean up in Chaplin lake begin?
5. What is the Did you know?
8. What was the name of the annual football game?
9. What do you suggest we watch?
10. Whose the Editor In Chief?

Down

1. How frequent is the Sauce?
3. Who did the Demons lose to last Saturday?
4. How many girls did Phi Mu recruit?
6. What room was the writing in?
7. What is today?

Reflections of my first game

Jordan Baird
Contributing Writer

The Dazzlers lined up with all 300 band members and the color guard around 4 p.m. We walked in unison to the band's cadence all the way until we stepped onto the turf of Turpin stadium.

It was game day and all of Natchitchoes knew about it. Friends, family and students of NSU packed into the stadium for the pre game performance we had been working on for months. The football players had been waiting for this day probably just as long as we had.

Kick off was nearing and the excitement was raging throughout the stadium. All of the halftime performers took their places in the stands and the cheer team and pom line had made their way to the sideline where they would help keep the fans hyped during the game. I had no clue what to expect with a brand new team to cheer on but, win or lose I was rooting for the Demons.

We started off a bit slow. Flags were thrown, penalties were made and we hadn't scored anything. I felt a bit discouraged, but finally they began to catch up. I just remember singing the fight song over and over every time we made a touchdown or field goal.

It was nearing halftime and my debut was finally about to be made on a brand-new field with a huge crowd awaiting us. The announcer gave us our cue and the drum major led us out onto the field. I turned and faced the front where I hit my beginning position and I couldn't believe my eyes. Fans were actually sitting in their seats ready to enjoy what we have been working so hard to share. It went by much faster than I expected, but we completed the show and all I could hear was applauding and cheering throughout the entire stadium. What a feeling it was to perform as a Northwestern State Demon Dazzler for the first time.

We exited the field and returned to our places in the stands for the remainder of the game. It was finally drawing to a close. The Demons remained a touchdown behind the other team and the clock was ticking down faster than ever. The buzzer sounded and the Demons didn't have a chance to score again. It was devastating losing our very first game.

Our first game may have not been a victorious one, but it was one to remember. I am hopeful that we will redeem ourselves at the next game of the season and even if we continue to lose, I always remember, "The pride in performance is not in winning, but in a job well done."

the current sauce staff

Editor-in-Chief: Emily Fontenot

Associate Editor: Emily Carter

A&E Editor: Justin Vance

News Editor: Essie Hullaby

Life Editor: Megan Boyanton

Sports Editor: Brian Cook

Opinions Editor: Alliyah Perry

PR/Online: Damian Glover

Copy Editor: Kimberly Mosier

Lead Designer: Hannah Fulton

Assistant Designer: Jacob Contreras

Lead Photographer: Alec Horton

Assistant Photographer: Tyra Morrison

Staff Writers: Meg Denny, Savannah Meredith, Ashley Wolf, Ben Wellman

look us up

@The CurrentSauce

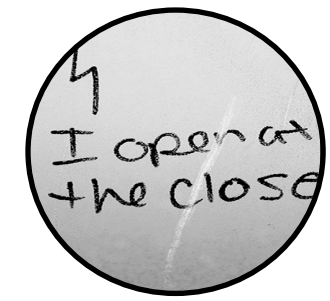
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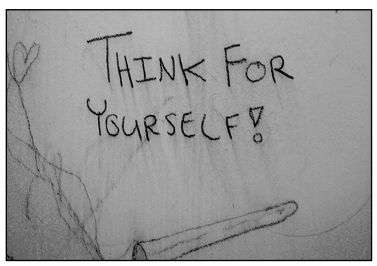
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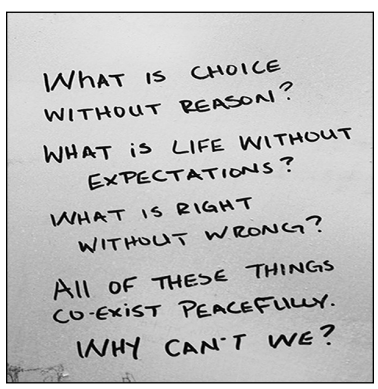
The Current Sauce

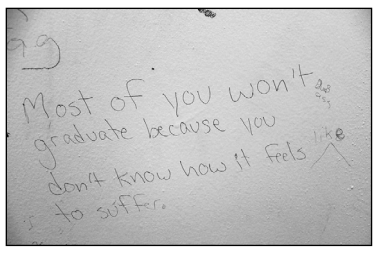
Writing on the stall:
Bathrooms fuel students' artistic tendencies











Denny found these pieces of graffiti in the bathroom's in Kyser. *Photos by Alec Horton*

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

On June 25, 2014, a woman entered the Kyser bathrooms on the first floor to spread a message. "You are beautiful. 6.25.14," she wrote. As I went to use the restroom on Sept. 1, 2015, the woman's message still hung on the wall. I looked around the stall and saw the various displays of bathroom graffiti which has presumably always existed.

In my opinion, the graffiti I found within bathroom stalls is art. Maybe the writings are cliché or overdramatic, but here is where the art comes in: this graffiti is a representation of NSU students' realities.

Many of the words written on each stall only covered God or Jesus. The amount of Bible quotes and references I saw made me think that, for a public university, maybe we are growing too religious in attitude. This is a question for another day, but I did find the debates quite enriching.

The artists did not just defend God, but argued against him too. Throughout every religious debate, a few people wrote in some comedic relief statements like, "There's something nice about having something to read on bathroom breaks." This is true. Maybe no bathroom artist cares about what they write; maybe they just write it for kicks. Either way, there's a special something within their work.

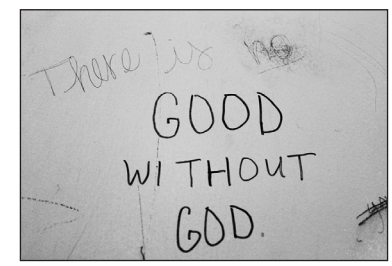
I discovered less blatant jokers in the stalls of Kyser than I expected. Sure, there were a few vulgar slurs and drug references painted the walls, but it was not excessive. What's college bathroom graffiti without a few naked women and marijuana leaves? What really surprised me was how much everyone talked about "Harry Potter."

I hope some of you are like me and think, "Can't we all just stop talking about this guy with glasses and a weird scar?" It feels like such old news, but on—and off—the bathroom stalls there's one clear interest NSU wants to keep talking about. It has to do with the phrase written on the second floor stall that reads, "LONG LIVE SNAPE."

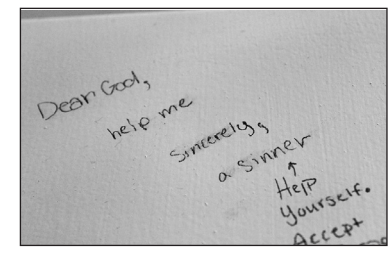
What moved me the most in these bathrooms of light blue doors and fluorescent lighting involved the poetry and pictures I saw in almost every stall. Whether the artists meant to or not, they left something on the walls that made me think about the true realities here at NSU. Here are a few of my favorites:

"You'll be okay."
"Love-hate relationships make the world go round."
"I write sucky emo poems trust me, your inner voice is so much better than mine."
"Dear God, help me. Sincerely, a sinner."
"Fear is revolutionary ... wouldn't be here without it."
"We are all stuff of stars."
"Be good to yourself. There's no guarantee that someone else will."
"GOOD WITHOUT GOD."

To the people who wrote these or any other meaningful graffiti on the walls, thank you. To everyone else, I suggest that you take a trip to the stalls. Go read for yourself what NSU students don't say aloud or on YikYak. Also, don't take these words as a joke. Treat them as the important art NSU has always been able produce, whether in CAPA or the bathrooms on campus.







Some of the graffiti is religious in nature, while other pieces focus on pop culture.

How Kim Davis is abusing her right to religious freedom

Megan Boyanton
Life Editor

While the Supreme Court decided in June to permit same-sex marriage, Kentucky clerk of court Kim Davis refused to distribute marriage licenses to same-sex couples in Rowan County for almost three months. She reasoned that her religious freedom was being violated and that, as a Christian, she should not be forced to legitimize same-sex couples.

News of her personal stance spread across the country and, soon enough, the opinions of the American people— both unashamedly ignorant and exhaustingly informed— were plastered on Facebook and Twitter feeds. I've read through hundreds of politically and religiously-fueled comments, dragging in The Bible and The Constitution.

Ultimately, she spent what was *surely* an agonizing five days in jail for contempt of court. Kim Davis received the attention she wanted, which was to be painted as a sort-of Christian martyr against same-sex marriage. Interestingly enough, she's registered as a Democrat, which only highlights her ignorance of basic political standards. A good majority of the Democratic Party spearheaded the fight for LGBT rights, including those regarding government-sanctioned marriage.

She is wrong for many reasons. To start with, Kim Davis is an elected official for the United States government, which answers the question of why she cannot just take a pink slip from her duties. As a clerk of court, her job description is to distribute marriage licenses to eligible couples.

The definition of an eligible couple has changed over time in the United States. People tend to forget that it was only in 1967 that interracial marriage was legalized. That's not even 50 years. Racists fought that and lost the battle. Now, in the 21st century, same-sex marriage has been legalized and, suddenly, the pool of eligible couples expanded. Homophobes have stepped up to the plate to attempt to argue the decision.

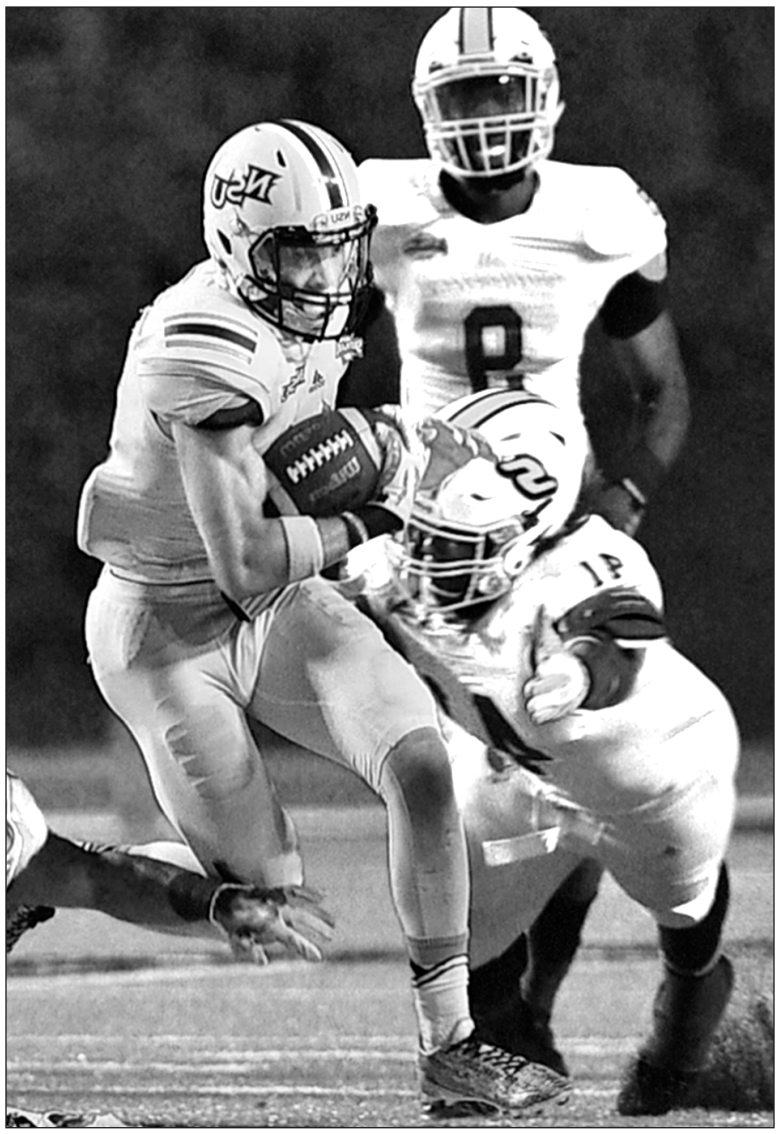
Here's where it gets tricky for Davis. Remember, her duty is to distribute marriage licenses. She does not determine who is eligible; the United States government does. Her job description has not changed. If she was a small-business owner, she *may* be able to argue against selling same-sex couples wedding inventory, like cakes and venues.

However, as a civil servant, her religious liberties can be set aside to serve the people. A Muslim clerk of court could not refuse to distribute marriage licenses to same-sex couples either. The separation between church and state still holds, which means a state job must be kept separate from your faith's obligations.

On top of that, the people of Kentucky— gay, straight, trans and in-between— pay the taxes that go to her annual $80,000. She's literally pocketing taxpayer money to refuse same-sex couples their legal rights.

As of June 26, 2015, Davis was breaking the law.

These days, Americans ignore the fact that we are not a theocracy. We do not have a nationwide religion. We are not obligated to follow your faith or your religious literature, whether it is The Bible, The Torah or The Qur'an. Your personal beliefs should not interfere with the rights of other Americans.





(Left) Demons wide receiver Tuff McClain caught a pass in traffic against the Lions. That was McClain's only catch of the night as it accounted for 22 yards. (Right) QB Blumenthal stood in the pocket right before he delivered a strike down field. Blumenthal was the leading QB as he threw 5 for 7, for 103 yards and one touchdown. *Photos by Gary Hardamon*

Late surge pushed Lions over Demons, 34-20

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

The Demons couldn't stop 19th-ranked Southeastern Lions as they rushed for 438 yards while taking home a conference victory for the Demons Annual White Out game.

"Southeastern played basic football as they ran it down the middle on us. The defensive line has to get it together," said senior defensive lineman Leroy Armstrong.

In front of 10,621 fans, who were mostly covered in the white, everything was toe for toe between the two squads for the first half. The Demons (0-1) battled with the Lions (1-0) and gave them everything they had, going into halftime down 13-6, after the Lions scored on a late surge right before halftime.

The Demons battled their Annual White Out game in front of 10,621 screaming fans.

The Lions quickly scored twice right out of halftime as the Demons only managed to get on the board once as running back Daniel Taylor scampered for a 27-yard run. Taylor, along with De'Mard Llorens, led the Demons rushing attack with Llorens rushing for 45 yards on nine carries and Taylor rushing for 34 with ten carries, scoring the only rushing touchdown of the game.

"We will get the Xs and Os straight, but there are other things we need to get straight, too," Thomas said. "Southeastern was physical on both lines, and their defense kept our offense bottled up."

The big battle for the Demons was on the offensive side of the ball, as they scattered to see which quarterback would be a perfect fit for the team. The battle continued throughout the game as sophomore Joel Blumenthal entered late in the second half and took over. He opted to be the best of the three contenders as he went 5 for 7, throwing for 103 yards and one touchdown.

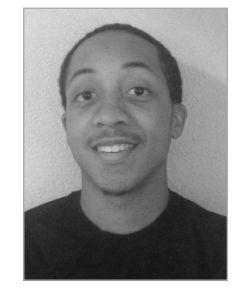
"We planned on getting Joel in the game, and he sparked us. He ran around and was creative," said head coach Jay Thomas.

The Demons came as close as six points shy of the Lions in the 4th quarter with back to back scores, but still being down 26-20. In a timely fashion while running down the clock, the Lions managed to seal the deal with a late touchdown run, pushing the score up 34-20.

The Demons ended with a total of 259 yards, 153 which was in the air, compared with the Lions 453, who also controlled the clock, using up a total of 32:29 minutes in time of possession.

Demons next opponent, University of Louisiana Lafayette (0-1) ended a tough battle against the University of Kentucky this past weekend as they also fell short within the last minute of play. With hopes of bringing in a huge crowd for two hometown teams that are two hours in distance between each other, the Demons are looking to bring the upset and leave Cajun Field with a victory.

Pitchfork Pass



Darius Brock
Columnist

Thursday marked our first home game of the 2015 football season! It was also the debut of the class of 2019 Inferno. The game did not kickoff until 6 p.m., but we were ecstatic as early as 3 p.m., as we tailgated in our new student tailgate area, Pitchfork Pass. You could feel it in the air; the smell of game day jambalaya and body paint mixed with two hundred plus students all waiting behind the field gates like caged animals, ready to scream, "Beat The HELL Outta SLU!"

We chanted repeatedly right before they released us onto the field. We screamed as those gates opened, and we stormed the field, followed by the thunderous cannon shots. It was an immediate adrenaline rush. We packed the field in a frenzy cheered on by our thousands of fans, students and alumni.
In a split second, we created a huge student tunnel for our players to run through. After they came running through we sat in our designated student section and did not stop screaming for the remainder of the game.

Being in "The Pass" for the first time was overwhelming. We were rambunctious in the stands and passionate about our Demons! We closely watched every touchdown, field goal, dropped pass and breakout run, feeling as if we were right on the field. The students are the heart and soul of the crowd, cheering alongside the cheerleaders, encouraging our demons to FIGHT! FIGHT! FIGHT!

The game itself was a close one, going down to the 4th quarter; however it was the Demons who fell short 34-20 after a late touchdown by SLU. It was an extremely hard-fought and competitive game. We will be back at the next home game yelling FORK'EM!

Lady Demons fall to in-state universities

Ben Wellman
Sports Writer



Sophomore defender Allison Palomo drove the ball down field against an opponent. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Two impressive road performances by the Lady Demon soccer team were soiled by end results as they brought their record down to 2-3-1 for the season.

The Lady Demons traveled to both Universities of Louisiana and lost both games, a 2-1 overtime defeat in Monroe and a 1-0 defeat in Lafayette.

Beginning with their first game at Monroe, the Lady Demons dominated the first hour of the game, but an equalizer by the Warhawks (3-3-1) sent the game into overtime, in which the home side scored the golden goal for the victory.

The Lady Demons took the lead as early as the 23rd minute. Sophomore midfielder Payton Roney gave the ball to freshman forward Brittany Caserma on the left side. Caserma was able to sneak the ball under the keeper's hand to give the visitors a lead going into the second half.

The Lady Demons continued their domination into the second half, but the home side began to find their momentum shortly thereafter. In the 78th minute, Warhawks forward Mariah Mitchell collected the ball and blasted a shot from outside of the box into the lower left corner to send the game into overtime.

Overtime would only last ten minutes, as the home side found a way. Warhawks midfielder Kelley O'Dwyer got her head onto a cross from inside the box and she headed the ball into the lower right corner to give the home side the victory.

"We prepared really well for ULM, but credit to them because we started playing their style in the second half," head coach George van Linder said. "We got away from doing what we do best, and that's what's unfortunate for us as a team. ULM can't play the way we play, but we shouldn't have tried to play the way they do either. It's disappointing to say the least."

Two days later, the Lady Demons headed to Lafayette, hoping to have better luck against the other UL. After a game where the visitors led the shots, another late goal was the difference as the Ragin Cajuns (4-2) emerged as 1-0 victors.

The teams played an even first half, with no goals to show for it. The second half was more of the same until the 82nd minute. Ragin Cajuns attacker Annika Scmidt passed the ball to attacker Ashleigh Cook, and Cook was able to put the ball past Lady Demons goalkeeper Alex Latham for the only goal of the game.

"For us defensively, overall our team is doing well," van Linder said. "We had a mental breakdown as a team defensively for just a second. Sometimes you get away with it, but ULL made us pay. It's the curse of having a young team, and hopefully we'll learn from these mistakes right now instead of during the conference season."

Between the two games, the Lady Demons got plenty of shots off. Caserma led the team in the two games with six shots, half of which were on target, including the lone goal in the Monroe game. Senior attacker Cassandra Briscoe had five shots in the two games, while sophomore forward Esdeina Gonzalez had four.

The Lady Demons will return home on Sept. 11 when they host Texas State.

Adam Pennington joins NSU track and field coaching staff

Sports Information Directory

Adam Pennington is a USATF Level 1 certified and USTFCCCA Strength and Conditioning certified coach and will coach the men's and women's sprints, relays, hurdles and pole vault for the NSU program.

Pennington, a Marksville High School graduate, coached at his high school alma mater from 2009-13 and had significant impact as an assistant coach at McNeese State as an assistant coach in 2014-15. He was selected after the 2015 season to attend an Emerging Elite Coaches Camp in Chula Vista, Cal., at the USA Olympic training center.

As an athlete himself, Pennington was a decathlete at Cowley Community College in Arkansas City, Kan., from 2005-07, where his team was twice third at NJCAA National Championships. Pennington was a national qualifier in the decathlon in 2007 and helped his teams win conference and regional championships.

Pennington competed for NSU in 2008, and later graduated from LSU Alexandria with a general studies-kinesiology degree. His hiring is subject to the approval of the Board of Supervisors of the University of Louisiana System, which includes Northwestern State University.

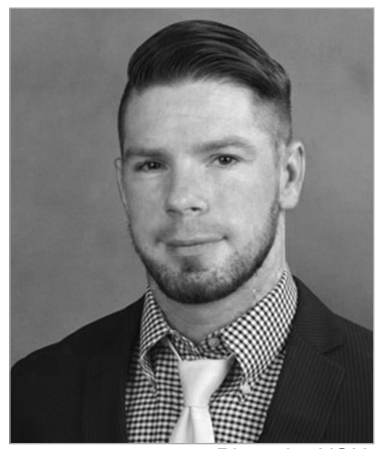


Photo by NSU

Demon sports updates

Demon's Jalan West featured in two BleacherReport.com elite lists

• Kerry Miller, BleacherReport.com's national college basketball columnist, listed West as fifth on his "Most Likely to Reach 2,000 Career Points in 2015-16" ranking of standouts.

• Columnist Brian Pederson rated West among the country's 20 "Most Exciting Players to Watch" in the 2015-16 season.

Intramural NFL Pick 'Em, open to ALL Students

Each week the NFL matchups will be posted on the Intramural site. Hit the drop down on each game posted and pick your winner. There is no cost to play. At the end of the 10 weeks, the winner will receive an Intramural Champion T-Shirt. We will have a Male & Female Winner. Each game is worth 1 point if winner is picked correctly. There is no penalty for wrong picks. The contest will run from Week 1 to Week 10 of the NFL Season. Each weeks picks must be submitted by Thursday at 12 p.m. Any questions or problems, please contact Intramural Director, Jason Stelly at 318.357.5341 or stellyj@nsula.edu.

Last words of love on September 11

"Honey something terrible is happening. I don't think I am going to make it. I love you. Take care of the children." Stuart T. Meltzer

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"Whatever decisions you make in your life, I need you to be happy, and I will respect any decisions that you make."
Jeremy Glick

“Liz, it's me, Dan. My building has been hit. I made it to the 78th floor. I'm O.K. but will remain here to help evacuate people. See you soon.”
Daniel Lopez

“Mommy, the building is on fire, there's smoke coming through the walls. I can't breathe. I love you, Mommy, goodbye.” Veronique Bowers

Quotes retrieved from The New York Times.



Speaker addresses how allies can help LGBTQ+ Page 3



Freshman theatre majors officially join department Page 4



Demon football falls to Cajuns, 44-17 Page 11

THE CURRENTSAUCE

Students unsure about campus recycling

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

On Friday (trash day for NSU), Sept. 11, 2015 a Progressive Waste Solution's garbage man was seen dumping a recycling bin into the same truck he had just dumped a regular trash bin. Photos were taken by a student as she witnessed the scene.

Demons who have taken the time and effort to care for our planet by separating their recyclables are furious. Now, they are calling for action. The Natchitoches city may offer limited recycling bins, but our students want more than that. We demand actual recycling services.

The Natchitoches city website states, "Recycling materials are picked up the same day as household waste and limbs by Progressive Waste Solutions." Although they may be picked up the same day, it is not stated that the recycling and trash will remain separated. A Northwestern State University custodial staff member, who wished to remain anonymous, said that when the trash and recycling are picked up, everything is "all thrown together." The person also said that "the students don't care."

Contrary to campus custodial belief, students are concerned about the fate of their trash and their planet.

"There's so much value in recycling and treasuring the planet we live on," senior Joshua DeAlba said. "You only have one planet."

During a small survey, 85 percent of students said they did care about recycling on campus, but only 77 percent actually recycled.

"I didn't even know we recycled," Senior Lacey David said. "It's not encouraged."

The 23 percent of students who said they did not recycle on campus gave two explanations: they didn't believe it was even being recycled, and there weren't enough recycling bins around campus.

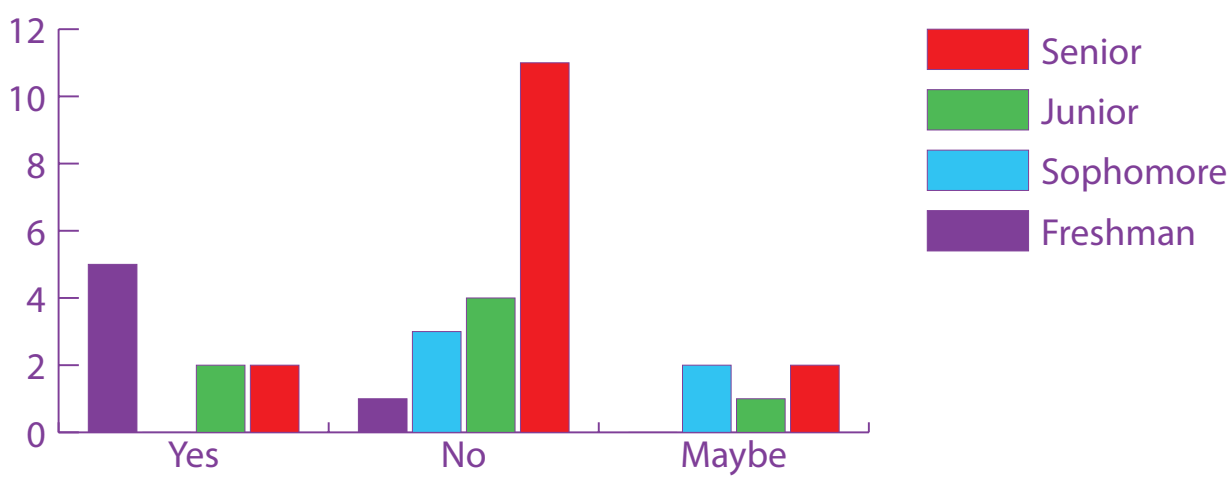
When asked whether they thought the campus recyclables remained separated when picked up, an alarming 81 percent of students responded "no" or "not sure."

"I have witnessed, on multiple occasions, the custodial staff in particular buildings dumping recycling and garbage into the same bag," senior Hammond Lake said.

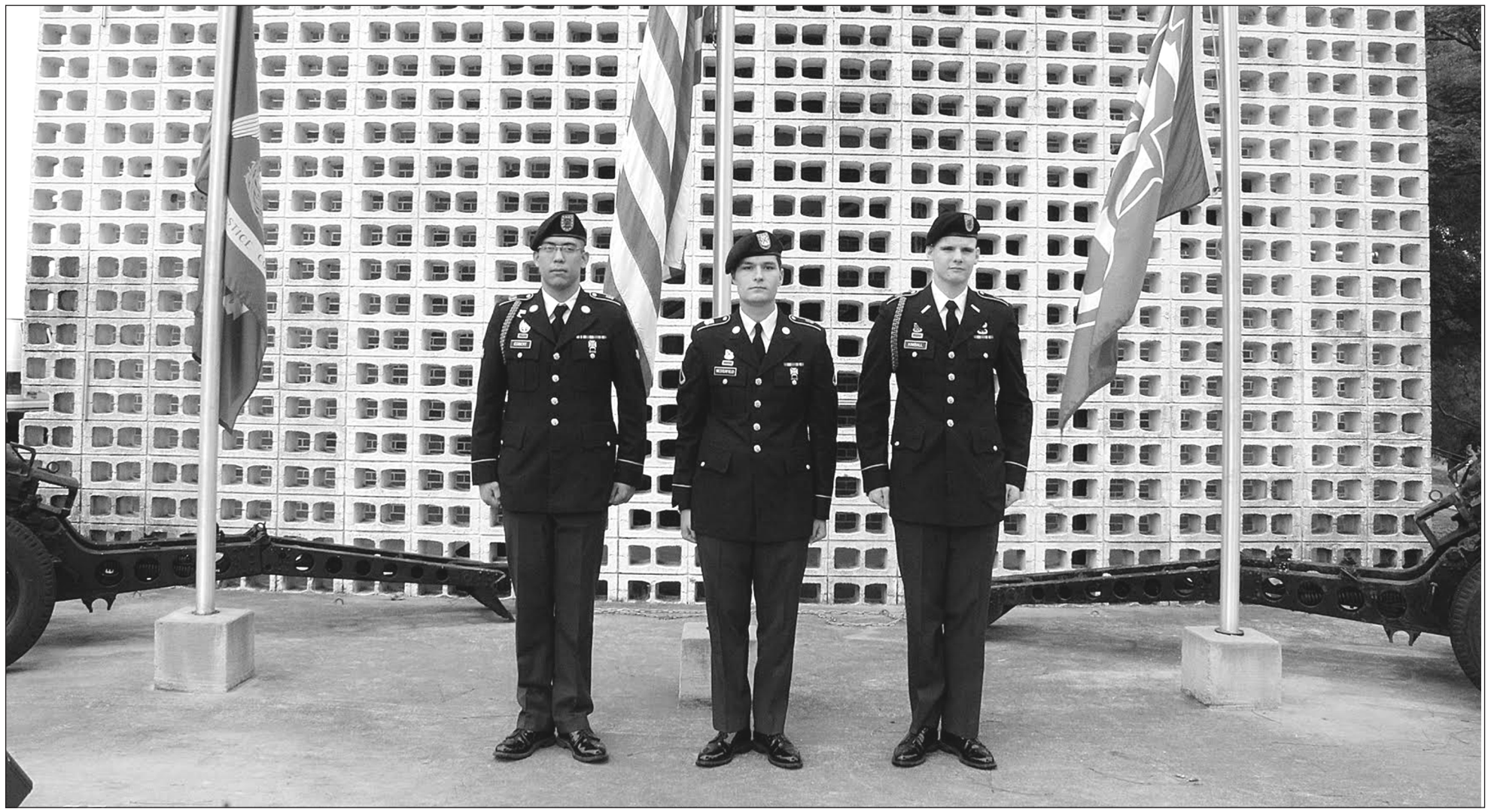
Senior Thomas Moore said "yes" to caring about campus recycling. But he said "no" when asked if he recycled on campus.

"I don't think they actually recycle," Moore said. "If I had proof then yeah, I'd recycle."

There's a desire among students for more obvious and consistent places to dispose recyclables. There's a willingness within the student body to learn more about recycling options, and the majority want the option available on campus. Currently, there are no recycling bins in the student union, Vic's, the Grill, Iberville cafeteria and one was found hidden in a Kyser hallway.



When asked during the survey, a majority of students answered 'no' when questioned on whether they think our university recycles. Out of the thirty-three students who were polled, nineteen don't think the university recycles. This does not stop students from recycling though. Out of thirty-three students twenty-five said they still recycle on campus. This is especially true of the senior class. Eleven students out of fifteen think that NSU doesn't recycle, but ten out of fifteen still recycle on campus. *Graph by Emily Carter*



ROTC Cadets Tyler Edbert, Matthew Westerfield and Shaffer Kimball at attention after the ceremony. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Students and faculty commemorate 9/11 anniversary

Julia Barry
Contributing Writer

Northwestern State University faculty and students gathered around the flagpoles around campus to commemorate the 14th anniversary of 9/11. The ceremony began at 8:46 a.m., the time when the first hijacked plane, American Airlines Flight 11, hit the north tower of the World Trade Center.

The ceremony was planned by a committee consisting of Shayne Creppel, Dale Wohletz, Alan Pasch, Vanner Erickson, Dean Frances Conine and Yancy Spillman. They decided on a silent ceremony to allow participants to "internalize the moment for each person and possibly (make them) think back to where they were at that moment" said Captain John Welch, professor of military science at NSU.

It was in the Spirit of Cadet Park outside of the Gov. James A. Noe Military Science Building, Kyser Hall brickway and between the Student Services building and Caspari Hall. At each section of the ceremony, there were members of the NSU Police Department, the Natchitoches Fire Department and the Demon Battalion Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps to represent the members of the armed forces and first responders present that day.

Northwestern ROTC Cadets lowered the flags to half-mast while the bells of the A.A. Fredericks Tower rang. The bells continued to toll throughout the day at the times of the other attacks: at 9:03 a.m. when United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the south tower of the World Trade Center; at 9:37 a.m. when American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon; and at 10:07 a.m. when United Airlines Flight 93 crashed neighboring Shanksville, Pa.

Reatha Cox, director of First Year Experience and Leadership Development, was on campus when the attacks occurred and watched attacks live on television in the Vice President of Student Affairs Office.

The vice president at the time, Dr. Danny Seymour, and Dr. Mary Edith Stacy, the director of auxiliary services at the time, were with Cox in the room. Cox said she vividly remembers Dr. Stacy telling her, "That wasn't an accident."

Stacy was correct, however for many others hearing about the attacks put them in an initial state of disbelief. Mark Scott, a member of the Natchitoches Fire Department said that his first thought when he heard of the attacks was "Who was crazy enough to fly a plane into a building?"

Captain Welch said he saw two reactions in Americans: a desire for revenge and security paired by a rude awakening to the audacity of the Hijackers launching an attack on that level.

At the time of the attacks, Cox taught Orientation 1010, and in her classes she discussed the events with her students. She found that most of her students wanted to connect with their families and friends, to make sure they were okay and help in any way that they could. Some students went beyond just helping others and decided that they wanted to enlist in the armed forces to serve and protect their country, said Welch.

Welch also said that even 14 years after the attacks there are still people volunteering to go into the military because of the attacks on 9/11. This motivation to protect and serve can still be seen in the three cadets who volunteered to act the ceremony who wanted to honor all of the 2,977 lives lost as a result of the attacks. Welch said that Dean of Students Frances Conine and ROTC will continue to hold the ceremony annually to allow people to remember and "think back to where they were at that moment."

"I don't think that there has ever been any gathering like that since World War II," Welch said when he remembered civilians gathering after the attacks. It is hard to not see the similarities between the audacity of the actions of the Hijackers and the actions of the Japanese bombers of Pearl Harbor.

In his speech "For a Declaration of War," President Franklin Delano Roosevelt described the bombing of Pearl Harbor as "a date which will live in infamy" in the United States. To Reatha Cox, it is important for people to remember this infamous date because "in five years time, our college freshmen will not have lived that, and it has to be one of those things that people never forget."



LGBTQ+ Pride members at dinner with Capi Landreneau. *Photo submitted by LGTBQ+ Pride*

Speaker rallies allies for NSU LGBTQ+ community

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

How do we become LGBTQ allies on NSU's campus? On Sept. 11, Capi Landreneau, a social worker in Baton Rouge, met with students, faculty and staff to tackle this question.

Throughout her day, Landreneau covered many LGBTQ+ topics in her presentations. Heterosexism and its damaging effects, gender identity vs. sexual orientation and actions the school can take to create an LGBTQ inclusive atmosphere were some of the topics covered.

Beginning with her first session for faculty and staff at 8 a.m., she kept working with other student groups, student leaders, staff groups, counselors and nurses until 6:30 p.m. where she appeared at the SGA meeting.

"I would have done this for free," she said.

Landreneau had many goals for her visit, but she highlighted the following: to increase empathy, build awareness, and inform students and faculty on updated terminology and language pertaining to LGBTQ+ students. She gave out handouts with LGBTQ+ terminology which was distributed in each session two other worksheets. One was titled Tips for Allies of Transgender People and another covered the best ways a school can become gender inclusive.

President of NSULA Pride Aaron Rogers would love to see the lines of gender blurred on campus and would like to see more dialogue between the administration and the LGBTQ+ student community.

"Understand what it means to be an ally and what your role is in the movement, just like black people can't end racism, gay people can't end sexism."

-Capi Landreneau

The junior Sacred Music major said, "What stood out to me the most is the fact that Capi was actually here. Talking about the LGBTQ+ community is no longer a taboo. Especially since marriage is now nationwide, people are quick to push it as a non-issue, but it's still in fact a huge issue. Gender isn't binary and our university shouldn't treat it as such."

Theater and history major Rebecca Price thinks that Landreneau presented information effectively to the faculty and staff. The senior said, "I hope to see sensitivity in class discussions now. I think it's crucial that NSU responds to this by creating an LGBTQ+ safe space for students. We need it."

Landreneau hopes to see NSU grow from the information she presented. Specifically, she wants "a follow up call to action." Landreneau pointed out that she can give this school the information, but the real growth depends on whether the school chooses to do something with it.

She thinks the most important piece of information one can draw away from the LGBTQ+ presentation is how important allies are and why students at NSU should become allies.

Dr. Holly Stave, professor of English, thinks that faculty and staff should listen to students in order to learn.

"I hope we can change policies on campus to make especially the transgender and gender-queer students feel more comfortable, to let them know that this is their home too. I hope we become intolerant to abuse."

University of Louisiana System approves new programs for NSU

Damian Glover
PR/Online
Leah Jackson
Director of Informational Services

The University of Louisiana system has approved new certificate and post graduate programs for Northwestern State University. Most of the new certificate programs will begin this fall semester starting with the B-Term courses.

The programs approved include a Post Associate Certificate in Quality Control, a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Quality Control, a Post Associate Certificate in Project Management and a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Project Management. These certificates will be offered through the School of Business and Department of Engineering Technology.

Also approved was Post Graduate Certificate in Family Nurse Practitioner and a Post Baccalaureate Certificate in Business Analytics.

"This program is designed for a student who already has a baccalaureate degree, but needs some extra training to become more proficient," said Curtis Penrod, coordinator of NSU's CIS program. "Business analytics is a growing area and industry demand exists for students with those skills. The student will learn more about database systems, data analytics, operations management, supply chain management, marketing research and either intermediate business statistics or management science techniques."

Darlene Landry, a senior, believes that with these new programs, the future of the university will excel and lead to more progress and more individuals graduating.

"The needs of the world is constantly changing and with these new programs in my opinion Northwestern will have the upper hand in recruiting as well as preparing students to cater to these needs in jobs of the future," Landry said.

Currently the school of business and technology offers seven degree programs while the college of nursing and allied health offers one associates, three bachelors of science and two masters of science degrees. The college also offers a RN to a BS degree.

Dr. Margaret Kilcyone, dean of the college of business and technology, believes that certificate programs will increase the number of students in NSU's degree programs and provide a niche for the School of Business.

"Certificate programs allow those people with a degree to enhance their skill sets," Kilcyone said. "Since data from sources such as the Internet, social networks, and business networks is now widely available, which provides organizations and companies with the opportunity to better understand their audiences and make informed decisions, organizations are seeking professionals who have the skill set to navigate this data and find patterns and trends – and present these in an engaging and effective way."

For more information on the engineering technology certificate programs, contact Ahmad at ahmada@nsula.edu. For information on the CIS/business programs, contact Penrod at penrodc@nsula.edu. For information on the nursing program, contact Clawson at roed@nsula.edu. Information on other programs is available at nsula.edu/academics.

Here are a few actions NSU must take to end its gender exclusive atmosphere and to become an LGBTQ+ ally*:

1. Add the phrase "gender identity or expression" to the nondiscrimination policy.
2. Ask for "gender identity" on college forms and surveys.
3. Let students use their chosen name on campus records and documents.
4. Let students change their gender on campus records and documents.
5. Offer gender-inclusive housing.
6. Provide gender-inclusive bathrooms.

**Adapted from a handout Landreneau provided, published by Genny Beemyn*

Freshman theatre majors debut in 'New Faces'

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

Sixty-six freshmen theatre majors made their A.A. Fredericks debut in "New Faces," an annual performance welcoming new students to the NSU Theatre and Dance department.

Every year, a group of seniors direct and choreograph a group number for the freshman class in the beginning of the show. For the rest of the performance, freshmen have a chance to perform a solo or a duet in front of their new theatre classmates.

Each "new face" receives an upperclassmen mentor to help prepare for the event.

"The ability to allow every student in the program to help another student just makes everybody closer and allows everybody to feel like they're a part of something," event coordinator and theatre professor Dr. Parrish said.

This year, the group number was a section from "A Chorus Line." The song is very coming-of-age and reflects leaving a time of naivety and innocence.

"It is very appropriate in that it vividly describes growing up and saying goodbye to each age that is gone," said senior "New Faces" choreographer Josh De Alba.

Technical and musical theatre concentrater Annie Wright sang a comedic duet with freshman Shannon Jackson called "Agony" from "Into the Woods." Their animated rendition, full of exaggerated gestures and wild facial expressions, made the audience roar with laughter.

Wright explained that, without her coach, she wouldn't have been as confident coming into "New Faces."

"My coach has showed me the ropes of CAPA," she said. "She's funny, and she's more like a big sister. It's kind of like having a theatre big."

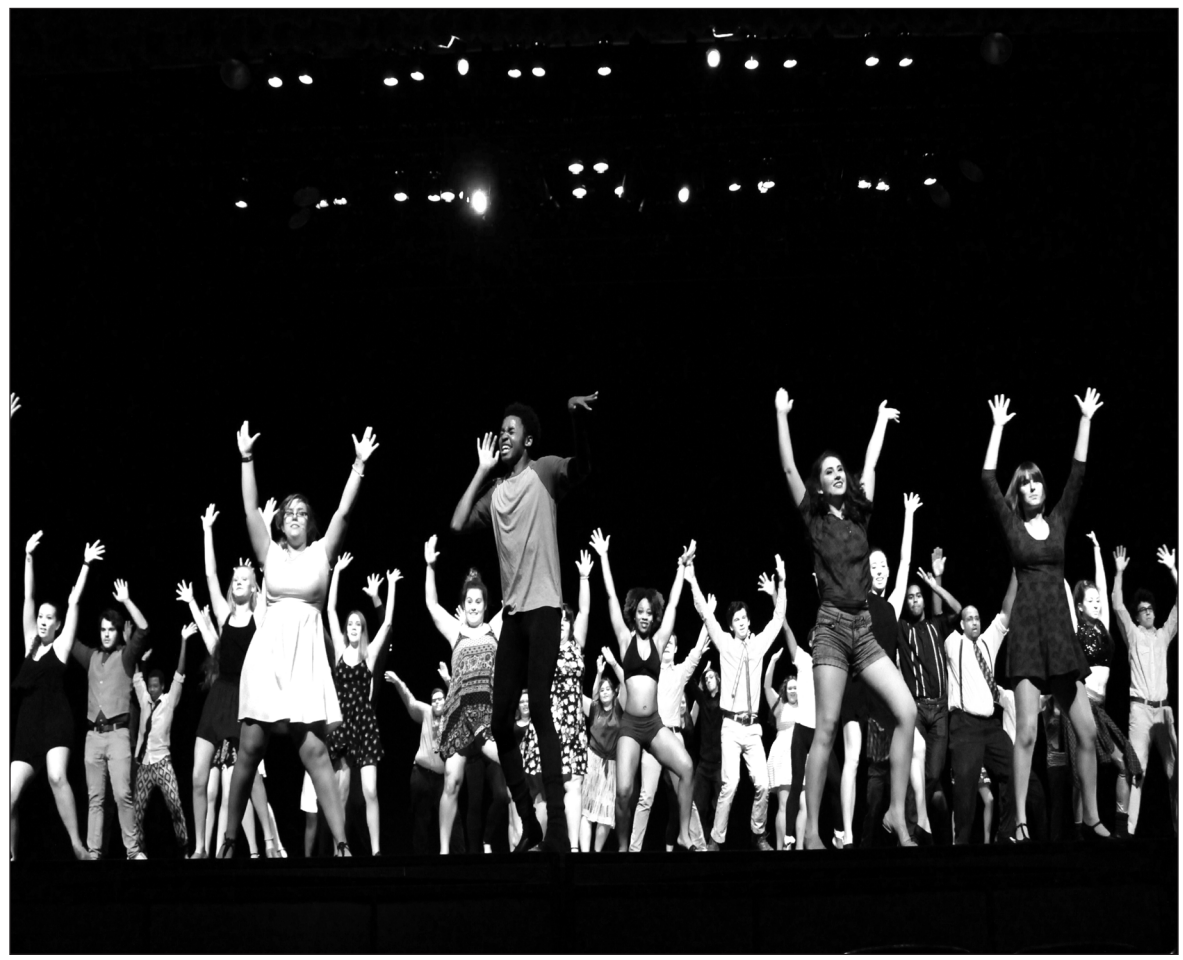
The upperclassman eagerly awaited every single performance, excited to hear what new talent was entering the department. Although some described the experience of performing in front of an audience of experienced performers as "intimidating," these freshmen were just excited to officially be apart of the theatre department.

"I've enjoyed it a lot," said freshman musical theatre concentrater Lazarus Salinas. "It's been a lot of fun getting to know about what I have to look forward to with my future in the department."

Every upperclassmen theatre major has a story about the first night becoming a "real theatre major." The day of "New Faces," Instagram and Facebook feeds were filled with throwback photos of "New Faces" performances from the past few years. It's not only a right of passage, but it's the event that officially brings the freshman into the theatre family.

"'New Faces' is such a welcoming event," said choreographer Josh De Alba. "Upperclassman are so supportive, and it's really a family event for our theatre family. Everyone feels phenomenal after."

Next year, those 66 freshman will be in the seats, impatiently waiting to hear the new talent and to welcome them into their close-knit theatre family.



Freshman theatre majors introduce themselves by showing their talents in annual "New Faces" performance.

Photos by Steven Sheerin



Global violinist duets with sister at NSU show

Rhiannon Dean
Contributing Writer

The setting is Magale Recital Hall, and the date is September 13, 2015, at 5 p.m. A grand piano sits in the center of the stage.

From the left door on stage, Pavel Bogacz and Elen Bogaczova emerge. They begin with a quick tuning and launch into an upbeat performance.

The two take a bow as the audience applauds.

Elen Bogaczova, an instructor/staff accompanist at Northwestern State University, speaks to the crowd about the performance.

"As siblings, we feel each other, and we are so happy to finally be able to play together in Natchitoches," she exclaims. Pavel Bogacz is a well-known violinist living in the Czech Republic.

For the next song, Paul Christopher, associate professor of music-cello, joined in. Christopher exited, and Dr. Dennette McDermott, professor of music-flute, graduate studies, took his place.

This new trio played a diverse, soothing melody. Dr. McDermott exited the stage, and the sibling duet remained.

The next piece that was played was very complex. Bogacz performed by strumming only the G-string of the violin in various ways. The next two pieces emitted mounds of vigorous energy. The crowd was very pleased and gave them a standing ovation. To end the performance, Bogacz and Bogaczova enacted a small, light piece that reminded Elen of a "restaurant scene".

Pavel Bogacz is described as a fascinating person, a great pleasure to be around, fun to perform with, and a great musician. He tours Japan annually, studied in Prague, and uses his musical talent to teach others. Bogacz is active in the the Czech Republic.

Paul Christopher spoke of his role in the concert.

"We met some time last week and had drinks," Christopher said. "His sister had asked me to play with them for the concert, and I was honored."

"We had one rehearsal, and there were no problems," Christopher said.

McDermott had actually played with Bogacz years ago.

"I've known Pavel since he was about 12 or 13-years-old, so that was back around 2012," McDermott said. "I went to his parents' home, and we performed in the orchestra together once. That was the only time we played together until this concert on Sunday."



Sibling duo Pavel Bogacz and Elen Bogaczova perform in Megale Recital Hall. *Photo by Alec Horton*



Idiot trio of "dude-bros" infiltrate and investigate Area 51 after the mysterious disappearance and reapearance of their friend. *Submitted by Brian Tallerico*

What Not to Watch: 'Area 51'

Hammond Lake
Contributing Writer

In 1999, "The Blair Witch Project" premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, forever changing the method in which horror films would be made.

The film was truly revolutionary, incorporating the "found-footage" technique to tell the tale of three young filmmaking idiots who go missing in Maryland while shooting a documentary on the legend of the Blair Witch.

The year is now 2015, and the film "Area 51" has now been released. Akin to "The Blair Witch Project," this film also uses the "found footage" method to tell the story of three similar idiots who go missing after attempting to film documentary footage inside the top-secret government base, Area 51.

The film starts with the idiot-bros heading to a party together, as any idiot bro would on a Friday night. At one point during the party, chief-bro Reid goes missing after he wanders off into the woods after losing a game of beer pong (a natural progression for the drunk fool).

After searching the premises for roughly five minutes, Reid's friends leave the party, concluding that Reid simply went home. However, once they're on the road, Reid appears in front of their car, looking distraught and possibly high.

Flash forward three months later: Reid and his posse have become alien enthusiasts and are plotting to break into the most secretive military base on the planet, Area 51. This all occurs about 10 minutes into the movie. From this point on, the film spends an hour on the planning and arguing needed to break into a military base, which ultimately is as disappointing as the rest of the film.

Created by the writer-director Oren Peli, Area 51 was initially supposed to act as a follow-up to his magnum opus, the wildly successful, sequel-spawning "Paranormal Activity."

Production for the alien-horror flick began in 2009. However, the postproduction was ultimately put on hold until 2013, after the film required several rewrites and reshoots.

Despite this vast production time, the movie largely appears to have been shot in a hurry, with choppy edits and long, boring scenes that ultimately are not necessary (such as when the dude-bros are in a strip club in Vegas, secretly filming the women giving them lap dances).

Over an hour of the film is spent watching the maroons in the desert, interviewing locals and attempting to wander through the landscape after dark, using night vision goggles. It isn't until the last 20 minutes that something interesting actually happens, but by that point you've already given up hope. You aren't rooting for the bro-idiots anymore; in fact, you "frankly don't give a damn" what happens to them.

Witnessing the fitness boom

John Hurt
Contributing Writer

With help coming from shows like Extreme Weight Loss and Biggest Loser, the amount of American participation in fitness programs has sky rocketed.

According to the website Gallup from 2009 to 2015 the percent of Americans exercising rose from 49.3 percent to 53 percent.

Since 1993, when the Gracie family introduced modern Mixed Martial Arts in the form of the Ultimate Fighting Championship, there's been a spike in fitness. It's moved from the weight-lifting gym, though. Now, gym rats are on the mats practicing other forms of MMA Fighting.

In Natchitoches, the main MMA gym is operated by the owners of Fisher's Sports. The Fishers offer the following MMA styles: Ka Ju Ken Fu, Kenpo Karate and Karbo-X.

Another school that offers MMA is the Gracie United Brazilian Ju-Jitsu owned and operated by Craig Sylvia. Gracie United is based out of the recreation room in the Faith Family Church on Sorgee Road. They offer classes on Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays.

Maybe instead of being a UFC champ, a student is looking to simply get in shape.

Well, for those type, Natchitoches has two gyms. Basic Health and Fitness on Keyser right by the bridge and the Warehouse right across from the main entrance across campus are two good options. Both offer services to help get you in shape.

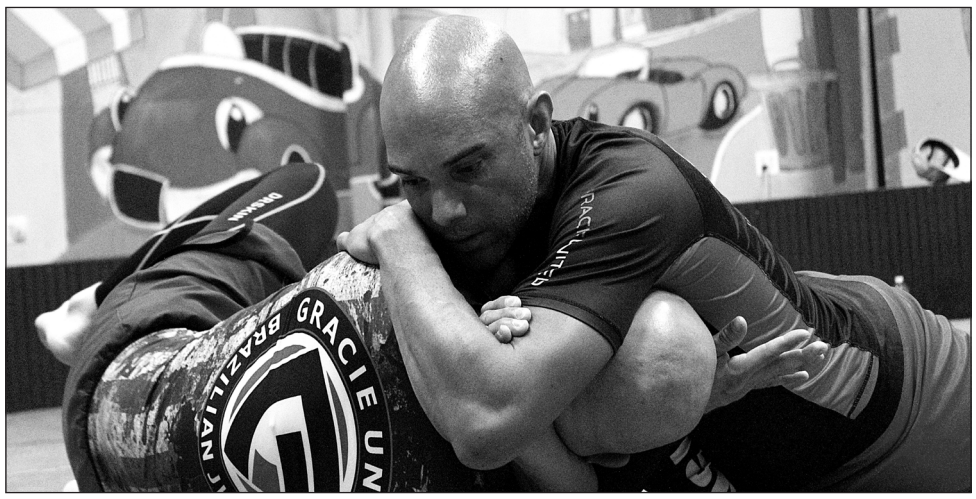
If you're an NSU or BPCC student, you can visit the Wellness Recreation Activities Center on campus.

All students need is a valid identification card. The WRAC is a resource for students because of their extended hours and the building's convenient walking distance from the student residence halls.

According to our student fees, students are already paying for their memberships, so why not stay in shape in-between class schedules?

No matter what a students' goals are, whether it's to be an Olympic gold medalist, a UFC champion or to just be healthy, Natchitoches has the resources to keep their bodies in shape.

Others looking to get fit and get in the cage can either find Gracie United on Facebook or stop by Fisher's next to Stage during business hours to sign up.





Top: Mentors at Gracie United Brazilian Ju-Jitsu spar together. Bottom: Contributing writer John Hurt participates in a local class for both his writing inspiration and physical health regimen. *Photos by Steven Sheerin*



Dr. Jim Henderson waited at the NSU-ULL football game on Sept. 12 in Lafayette, La. He high-fived each band member as they walked to the field for half-time, resulting in more than 300 high-fives. *Submitted by NSULA Photolab*



Cooking with Vic

Kayla Ryan
Contributing Writer

There is something wonderful every person remembers the most about their grandparents' house.

The constant playtime, delicious food, and, of course, the constant spoiling from elders are all fond memories that make people have a warm feeling inside.

The thing I remember the most about my grandmother's little brick house behind the pine trees was her traditional breakfast food: French toast.

Ingredients
-A loaf of bread
-2 cups of milk
-2 large eggs or 3 small ones
-3 tsp. of vanilla extract

To start, crack the eggs and whisk together finely. Do not let the yolk separate from the egg white too much or it will show when you fry the bread. When using farm eggs, float them to check their freshness.

Add milk and vanilla extract to the eggs and stir the mixture until a light yellow color appears.

Soak each slice of bread in your mixture and, using a medium skillet over a medium flame, cook each side of your toast for three minutes or until both look golden brown.

Keep in mind that if you heat up the pan too much the bread will burn on the sides without cooking the inside all the way.

Season and top your French toast according to taste.

I prefer to serve it with milk.

I remember every morning I would wake up to the smell of coffee and frying bread in a pan. I would scurry down the hall to see the magic that happened in the kitchen. I already knew that my Great Aunt Gladys's porcelain mixing bowl—covered in a '60s style of yellow flowers—was filled with a few eggs, some milk and vanilla just waiting for me to whisk away at.

Each piece of bread was carefully dipped and flipped in the batter quickly and tossed into the pan.

Once the masterpiece was completed, I would cover mine in syrup, and Grandmother always covered her portion in cinnamon sugar.

Food has always been important to me because I can look at certain meals and think of the heartwarming times I had creating them.

I still get sentimental when I see the old porcelain mixing bowl.

The kitchen holds many opportunities to not only learn to cook, but to retain fond memories like the ones I cherish of cooking breakfast with my dear grandmother.

If people tried cooking with their families more often, they'd be surprised of the things that will come out of it besides a full stomach.



Student Holli' Conway gives fashion tips for this week. *Photo by Tyra Morrison*

Racheal's Weekly Fashion Features

Outfit of the issue featuring Holli Conway

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

Featured today is Holli' Conway, a musical theatre major who I spotted in the Union.

The inspiration behind the outfit:
Holli was in the flash mob at the Purple Paloozza earlier this month to promote the upcoming RENT production, so she decided to dress the part. Her direct inspiration is the character she plays in the performance! She went for a roughed up, tough look to resemble her character, who happens to be a stripper.

Style advice:
She said she was no good at fashion, so I asked her, "What's some fashion trends on campus that aggravate you?" Holli told me she had witnessed someone wearing shorts that were "too long to be shorts and too short to be pants with long socks and some slides." She laughed, "It wasn't good."

Vibe for the day:
"It makes me feel like a bad-A. I feel like a rocker. Bad girl."



Dr. Henderson embraces longtime peer and friend, Jerry Pierce, at the door of his on-campus home. *Photo by Leah Jackson*

Fifty years as NSU's storyteller

Dr. Jim Henderson
NSU President

Fewer than 5,000 people lived in Cupertino in 1965. Chances are Northwestern State's News Bureau assistant had never heard of that California city when he started his first day of work on Sept. 13 of that year. NSU gained a storyteller that day, a master storyteller. His name, of course, is Jerry Pierce.

The job of a university's Vice President for External Affairs is not an easy one. Sure, it is fun to write about the success of the nursing program or the latest victory on the basketball court.

The job is about so much more than that. It's about crafting the image of the university to recruits…to policymakers…to employers…to faculty…to the community. It's about developing relationships. It's about managing the fallout when a student (or president) does something stupid. It's about telling the story.

Kyser, Kilpatrick, Bienvenu, Orze, Webb and Henderson, one-third of the occupants of the 131-year old NSU president's office, all knew or soon learned the importance of telling the story, and they all gained an appreciation for Jerry's uncommon ability to help them do that. They also gained an appreciation for his uncompromising loyalty, not to them as individuals, but to the university he loves. Through the years, Jerry was often called upon to loan his gift with words to the advancement of others.

A politician from a different region of the state was once referred to Jerry for help in writing a commencement address. He told Jerry he wanted to end the speech with the line "if you do not remember anything else from this speech, I want you to remember these three things…"

Jerry waited in silence, and then finally asked, "Well, what are the three things?"

The politician said, "That's what I want you to write!"

But the business of supporting and promoting Northwestern State was Jerry's true labor of love.

According to Sen. Gerald Long, who graduated from Northwestern State eight months after Jerry started work, "Jerry Pierce is a Webster's Dictionary definition of a public servant. No one has done more to promote NSU than this man. Jerry is the best example I know of when it comes to giving one's best."

So what does any of this have to do with Cupertino? Jerry wears a watch made by Apple, which is headquartered in that city.

By default, the watch includes the time in Cupertino, and Jerry does not know how to turn that feature off.

Last week, he managed to turn that into a story, a story of technological advance, a story of adapting to new realities, a story about how one struggles with progress, a story to which most of us can relate.

That is what a storyteller does: He puts words together like an artist blends colors or a composer arranges chords.

Storytelling is a craft.

For 50 years, the Northwestern State University story has been crafted by the very best.

Jerry, your Northwestern State family thanks you.

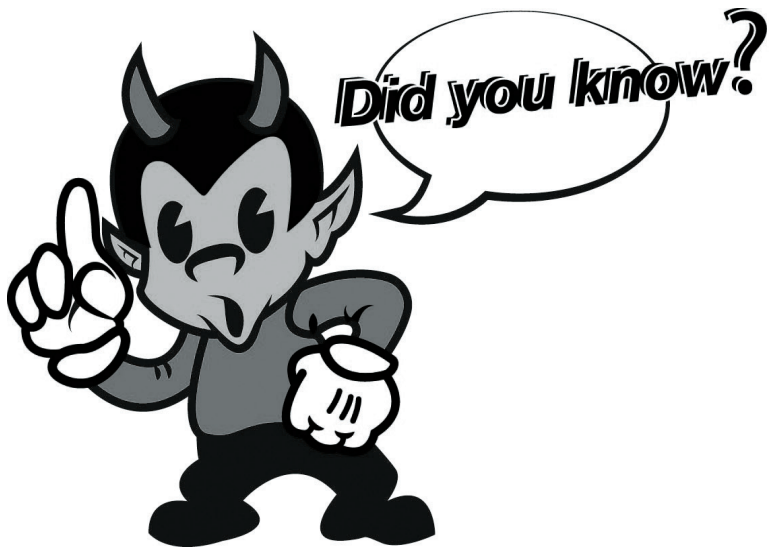
Letter from the Editor of Argus magazine

Maggie Harris
Argus Editor-in-Chief

Hello, all! My name is Maggie Harris, and I'm your Argus editor-in-chief, for this 2015-2016 academic year. As a lover of literature, I am so very pleased to have the privilege of working with the best artists, writers and poets. The goal for Argus this year is to create an issue that truly represents the spirit of our university's student body. As an award winning publication, Argus offers Northwestern State's students an exclusive avenue to showcase their work. The 2016 issue of Argus will mark 40 years of publication for Argus, one of the four components of NSU student media along with The Current Sauce, Potpourri and KNWD. I hope to see students this year use Argus to leave their words and pictures behind, as testaments to their time here. I am so excited to read the honest and brilliant pieces that you all will submit. Keep a lookout for the announcement of our 2016 theme!



Maggie Harris indulges in all sorts of literature, especially because of her position. *Submitted by Maggie Harris*



Orange is not an official NSU color, it's only trim

Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

Orange is not the new white at Northwestern State University. According to a 1975 Current Sauce article, the color appeared in the mid '70s when the athletics department was trying to think-up a consistent trim color to "add some life" to their white uniforms.

They wanted something unique and appealing outside of the frequently-used accent color "gold," (Are we LSU?) so they decided on the color "burnt orange."

The article addressed a "color controversy" associated with the decision because students, faculty and alumni thought the university's colors were changing completely. Also, they feared the color would hold an equal importance to the color "purple."

Today, "orange" is known as a "secondary university color" according to the NSU Traditions website since its adoption as part of the NSU Athletic department's logo.

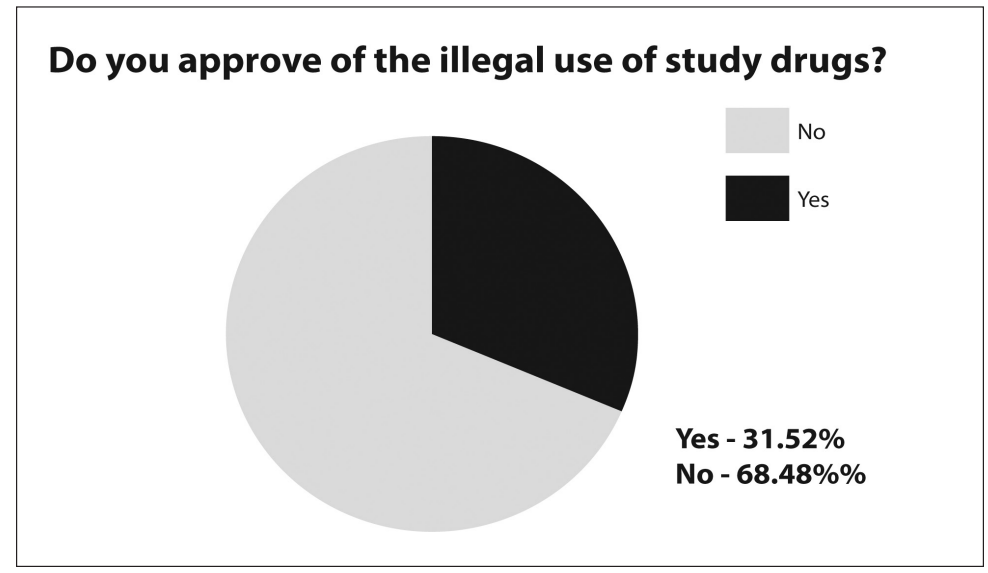
Dr. Jim Henderson, current president of NSU, said the status of the color won't change anytime soon. He referred to the fight song line 'the purple and white shall ever reign,' as his reasoning for emphasizing and sticking to the traditional colors instead of officially adopting the orange.

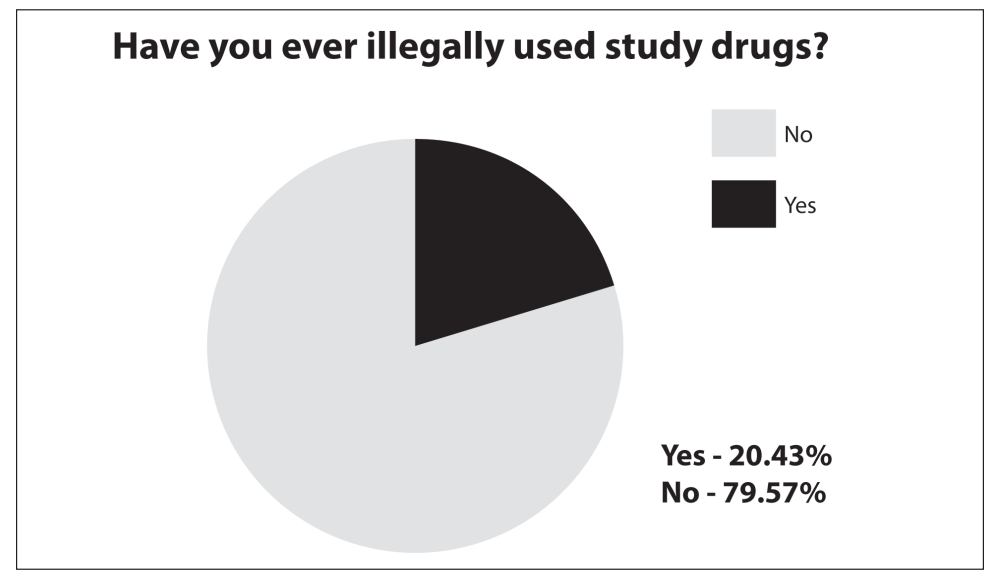
"Nothing against the color orange," he said. "It is not so much a hate of orange, but a love of purple."

The colors purple and white were adopted as the school's official colors in the 1890s when two organizations, Seekers After Knowledge Literary Society (Purple and Gold) and The Eclectic Literary Society (Blue and White), decided to combine each of their colors to create the combination.

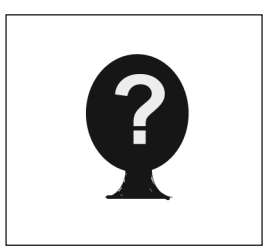
Once we at The Current Sauce realized this information, we decided to switch the theme colors of our paper to the original white and purple in respect to that tradition.

NSU students talk about 'study drugs'



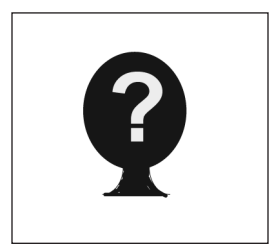


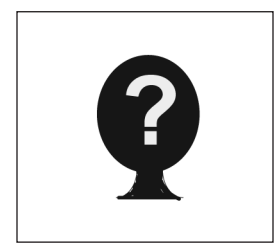
What is your opinion about 'study drugs?'



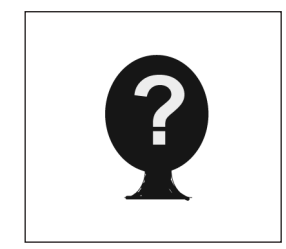
"My average study drug usage ranges from 4-6 times a semester of illegal study drugs because I can't obtain a prescription."

"Helps with preparation for finals and any test in general. Especially when students work late nights to help earn a living."

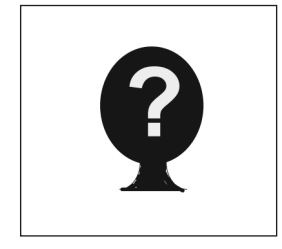




"I've never been put in a situation where I felt I needed a study drug to help me or where they were accessible to me."



"I do not use study drugs. I know people that do, but it seems like the risks outweigh the benefits."



"Some people need them, and they should have access to the prescriptions necessary."

Why students should exercise voting rights

Jordan Baird
Contributing Writer

Next time you complain about an elected official, ask yourself, "When was the last time I voted?"

Being 18-year-old United States citizens gives us the right do many things. In some states we can gamble, and we can buy lottery tickets in others. By this age, we are officially considered adults by legal standards, but the most prevalent privilege we don't always find important is our ability to vote.

Opportunities to vote happen in our country several times a year. Elections for governor, senator and mayor are just a few of the things we vote for, but our most important decision right now is the upcoming presidential election that has taken flight this past year.

As the time has come for us to start listening, watching and dwindling down the candidates, thousands of people across our nation are clueless to whom is even running in either party.

Generations before us fought for our right to vote. They wanted everyone to have a say in who was in charge. Since our establishment as the rebelling colonies to today, we still have people in America who take advantage of this earned privilege.

Our government officials are elected by our country's citizens—that includes our age group—and this affects the lives of everyone who lives in the United States. From education to healthcare and the roads we drive on each day, this right gives us a voice to determine our livelihoods. It is an important part of our society.

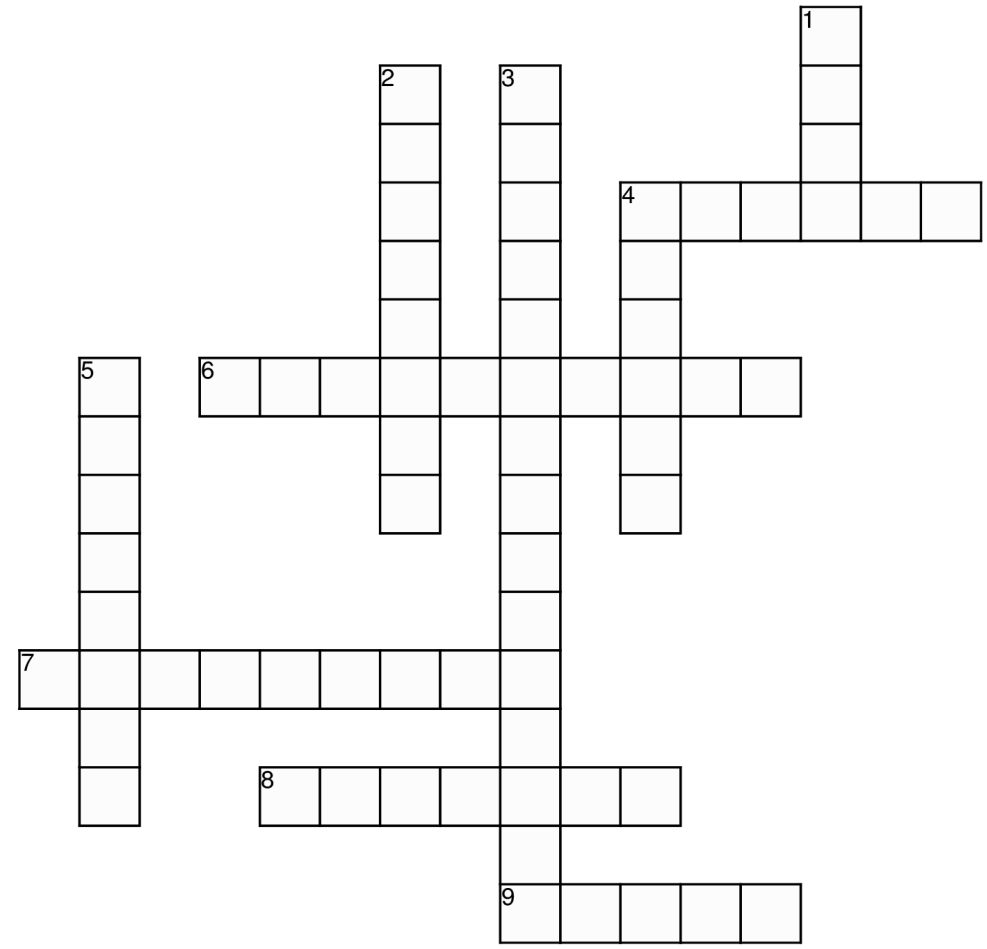
If we take the time out of our lives to study the candidates and pick the one who will be most beneficial to our city, our state and our country, we're using our opportunity to have our voices heard.

When you register your opinion for the government to hear, you should operate as if you are using your right to its fullest. I encourage you as a United States citizen to vote. Starting small with your parish's mayor may turn out to be a giant step for your society which, in-turn, would help create a better environment for your future.

There is still plenty of time for you to also be involved in the presidential election of 2016. Know your candidates, pick your favorites and vote for the one who will benefit your country the most.

Meat Pie Festival

Complete the crossword below



Across

4. When does the Meat Pie Festival start?
6. What annual Meat Pie Festival is this?
7. What local band will be playing this weekend?
8. Who's known for their world famous meat pies?
9. What country did the meat pie originate in?

Down

1. What student organization will be present at the Festival?
2. What will be held in conjunction with the Meat Pie Festival?
3. What band will end day one of the Meat Pie Festival?
4. What Market sells meat pie?
5. Where will the Festival be held at?

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Cajuns' ground game overruns Demons, 44-17

Brian Cook
Sports Editor



Demons Paxton Cook and LaAllen Clark closed in to tackle Cajuns Brooks Haack as he attempted to scramble out of the backfield for more yards. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

With hopes of pulling off an upset against in-state rival University of Louisiana Lafayette, the Demons were reluctant to do so, as they fell to the Cajuns, 44-17.

The Cajuns' (1-1) ground game came in handy, as they rushed for 360 yards against a tired Purple Swarm defense, who couldn't get a grip as they gave up more then 350 rushing yards for two consecutive weeks.

"We gave up too many rushing yards, and I feel that we need to tackle more on defense," linebacker Paxton Cook said. "We had plenty stops, but we still need to limit the big plays."

On just their second drive of the game, the Demons (0-2) gave up an 88-yard touchdown run right up the middle. They gave up 547 total offensive yards to the Cajuns compared to their 369.

Safeties Chase Collins and Darius Poullard lead the Demons defense in tackles, with Collins leading with 10 and Poullard with seven, as they weren't able to force any turnovers this week.

Offensively, the Demons pushed for many yards against a Cajuns defense who wouldn't budge. Running backs Daniel Taylor, De'Mard Llorens and Chris Jones all acquired for more the 50 yards each, with Jones being the only one to score with seven carries.

"I wasn't expecting it, but it felt really good coming out and running the touchdown," Jones said.

In the beginning of the second quarter, Jones jumped in and perfectly executed a 41-yard touchdown run that put the Demons on the board for the first time of the night. The Demons didn't find the end zone again until right before halftime, as Chris Moore made a 21-yard field goal that narrowed the score, going into halftime 27-10.

"The performance was much better, and I feel we played better then we did last week," head coach Jay Thomas said. "Defensively, we're just young, and we gave up too many big plays."

Quarterback Joel Blumenthal had the start for the Demons as he threw for 56 yards off three completions. Alongside him, J.D. Almond also received his first playing time of the year as he threw for 66 yards off of five completions, including a 14-yard sole touchdown to receiver Cody Jones late in the third quarter that cut the Cajuns score in half, 34-17. The Cajuns then sealed the deal, adding 10 more points in the fourth quarter to keep the Demons away.

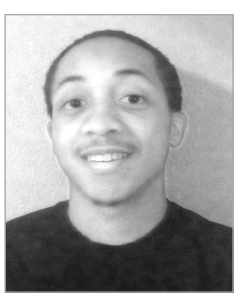
Coach Thomas refers to next weeks' opponent as being in one of the best leagues in the country (SEC West), but says that it'll be a great experience for the team, and it'll help them get ready for conference play, which resumes week 4.

"We're a good team and at 0-2, but I don't think that reflects the strength of our team or who we are," Cook ended with.

The Demons travel to Starkville on Saturday where they will face the Bulldogs of Mississippi State (1-1). Kickoff is set for 3 p.m., and the game will be aired live on SEC Network.

What exactly is the WRAC?

Darius Brock
Columnist



If you are looking for a great retreat from the everyday classroom stress, the WRAC is somewhere you should try. WRAC stands for Wellness Recreation Activity Center and it "Offers comprehensive, quality programs and services that enhance and promote healthy lifestyles, competition, and leisurely activities; through recreation, sports competition, instruction, and fitness."

For those who don't know the WRAC, it is located just north of our Turpin Stadium, and it's free to all NSU students with identification. All non-students must pay $10 to use the facilities or purchase one of the available memberships for one month, six months or one year. However, anyone can purchase a 30-day trial membership.

You must provide a picture identification and fill out all the proper paperwork. All fees are paid up front. A WRAC identification card costs $5 and is available in Room 210 of the WRAC so students can enjoy the activities along with their family and friends.

The facility is 90 thousand sq. ft., so there is something for everyone. They offer various activities such as personal training and massage therapy, yoga and Zumba. It also has four basketball and volleyball courts and an indoor track and weight lifting room.

Recently, the WRAC adopted new late hours and now closes at 10 p.m. on weekdays. This gives students extended amounts of time to complete any homework or club activities before coming out to the WRAC for a late night workout.

My personal experience at the WRAC has been amazing because there is plenty to do. The majority of my time is spent either on the basketball courts or in the weight room. I recommend that all students visit the WRAC at least once during their college experience. If physical activity is not for you, then they offer jobs assisting activities and working the help desk.

NSU WRAC

Soccer team loses sight of victories

Ben Wellman
Sports Reporter

It was a bizarre weekend for the Lady Demon soccer team that didn't end the way they would've hoped.

The Lady Demons went on the road to Southern Methodist and lost 3-0 after a game two days prior against Texas State was canceled due to unsafe weather conditions. The loss brought the Lady Demons' record down to 3-4-1 for the season.

On the heels of a massive 10-0 victory over Alcorn State, the Lady Demons welcomed the Bobcats from Texas State to Natchitoches for a game that wouldn't end up with a result.

With a little over 11 minutes remaining in the first half, a lightning delay followed by a power outage accompanied by heavy rain nullified what was a 3-0 Bobcat lead and the match result was declared to be "no contest."

Despite the disappointment of that game, an airplane show was happening overhead. The air show was a nice display, but smoke from said airplanes may have played a role in Texas State's third goal, off of a corner.

Smoke had surrounded the area where the corner was being taken, and the ball was played in and headed home past a possibly blinded Brooke Bourbonais. The match was delayed shortly thereafter and subsequently called.

Two days later, the Lady Demons traveled to Dallas to take on the Mustangs of Southern Methodist University. The Lady Demons left with nothing, as they were shut out en route to a 3-0 loss.

The Lady Demons tried to employ the same type of strategy that led to their 1-1 draw at LSU earlier in the season and despite only being down 1-0 with 10 minutes remaining, late aggressiveness by the visitors led to two late goals to give the home side a 3-0 victory.

"I'm really proud of this team, they stuck to the game plan and did well," head coach George van Linder, who previously let SMU to three NCAA tournament appearances, said.

"It was my decision to take the gamble. It's just not our mentality to sit there and take a 1-0 loss. It was unfortunate because we didn't get the results we wanted."

Despite the home side having a lopsided advantage in shots, the Lady Demons were able to keep a good spell of possession and get a few shots off against SMU. Midfielders Sage Leffew, Patry Carrion, Camila Ardila, Chandler Monk and forward Kayleigh Phillips each registered a single shot against the Mustangs.

Leffew, who had started every game and played almost every minute last season, played her first official minutes of the season against the Mustangs after coming off of an MCL sprain. She did get some playing time against Texas State, but since that game was nullified, those minutes don't count.

"It felt great being able to be with all the girls again," Leffew said. "The knee felt great, couldn't be any better. I had some contact, and everything went smooth as butter. I hope it stays that way."

The Lady Demons will begin Southland Conference play on September 18 when they travel to Stephen F. Austin for a 1 p.m. battle. They will return home the following week, Sept. 25 at 7 p.m., when they welcome Lamar to Natchitoches.



Demons forward/midfielder Payton Roney kicked the ball pass two Bobcat players.

Photo by Gary Hardamon

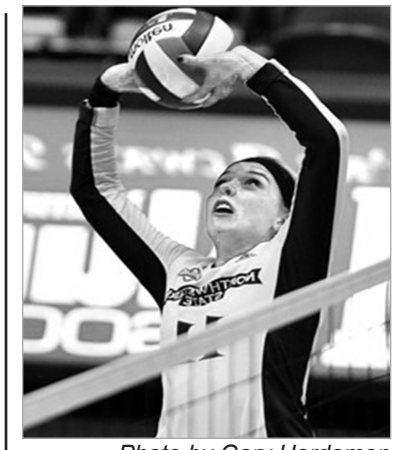


Photo by Gary Hardamon

Volleyball on rough start

Reginald Williams
Sports Writer

The Demon Volleyball team traveled to Fayetteville, Arkansas this past weekend to take part in the Razorback Invitational, only to leave with losses.

After having a good offensive output on Saturday, the second day of the tourney, the Lady Demons could not close out on crucial sets against both the University of Texas-Arlington and Southeast Missouri State ending in a pair of 3-1 decisions.

The losses gave the Lady Demons a six game losing streak, leaving them with a 2-8 record.

For the opening game, the Lady Demons faced off against UTA, losing the first set and winning the second but dropping the last set along with the match to the Mavericks.

In the last game the Lady Demons dropped both the first and second set only to rally and win the third set against Southeast Missouri State. That extended game play to a fourth set, which resulted in a Demons victory.

The Lady Demons gets back on the road Friday to participate in the Lone Star Showdown in Lubbock, Texas, at Texas Tech University. The first game against Washington State will take place Friday, at 1:30 p.m. The second game will be against Portland State at 4:30 also on Friday. The last game will be against the host school Texas Tech at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday. The Lone Star Showdown will be the final tournament of the regular season.

Preview of Demon's Saturday football game in Starkville

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

Preparing to play one of their hardest games this season, the Demons will be traveling to take on the Mississippi State Bulldogs on Sat., Sept. 19.

Coming off a hard loss to the Tigers, the Bulldogs will be looking for redemption on a tough but exhausted Demon defense, who still feels that State will be no more a challenge than any other team.

"I feel that we have pretty good potential, and we'll get a chance to show it this week as we take on Mississippi State," defensive end JeMarcus Marshall said.

The Bulldogs accounted for only 43 rushing yards last week but was very strong with its passing game, as quarterback Dak Prescott threw for 335 yards.

That's going to be tough on the Demon defense, who have not played against a passing offense yet this season. In the previous two weeks, the Demons only gave up a total of 202 passing yards. The defensive will have their hands heavy, but with the return of safety Adam Jones, the Purple Swarm will be returning back to its regular ways.

"If we feed off the energy and everything we did last week against ULL, we should be able to perform well against State," running back Chris Jones said.

With hopes of thriving off of energy, the Demons are looking forward to another tough FBS match.

What can be recycled?

Recyclable

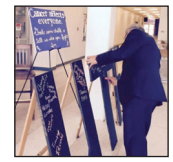
- Newspaper
- Corrugated boxes
- Cardboard
- Magazines
- Mail
- Office Paper
- Catalogs
- Cereal boxes
- Food packaging boxes
- Alumninum cans
- Steel cans
- Milk jugs
- Plastic drink bottles
- Plastic water bottles
- Detergent jugs
- Plastic juice jugs
- Plastic tea jugs

Non-recyclable

- Plastic Bags
- Food Waste
- Bathroom Waste
- Yard Waste
- Glass Bottles
- Furniture or Appliances
- Tires
- Toys
- Automobile Parts
- Garden Hoses
- Paint Buckets
- Batteries
- Construction Material
- Aerosol Spray Cans
- Wood
- Rocks-Bricks-Dirt



Student starts new service fraternity
Page 2



Unite to Fight begins campaign with Fall Awareness Week
Page 5



Demon's confidence still high after loss
Page 10

THE CURRENTSAUCE



The Electric Sons play the final show at KNWD's Concert for a Cause. *Photo by Ashley Wolf*

KNWD unites NSU students with city

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

The annual Natchitoches Meat Pie Festival shook up tradition this year by collaborating with KNWD's Concert for a Cause, a benefit concert raising money for music programs in Natchitoches Parish schools.

Not only was the event KNWD's first Concert for a Cause, but it marked the first collaboration between a Natchitoches community event and KNWD.

Story continues page 7

Ward responds to survey

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

From the previous student survey, Demons take pride in their campus and in campus recycling.

After further investigation, the answer to the recycling issue now rests on the shoulders of the students and faculty to take the initiative and become educated about what actually goes in the recycling bin.

Similar to the students, out of a survey of nine faculty and staff members, four mentioned seeing a driver dumping both trash and recycling together. Out of the nine, only three responded "yes" when asked whether they thought NSU recycled.

Story continues page 2

Talking Sex with the Dean

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

"Give me all the consent!" Dean of Students Frances Conine shouted into a crowd of freshmen orientation students on Sept. 17. This marked the hopeful beginning of a new culture on NSU's campus: consent culture.

In lieu of freshman orientation classes held Wednesday and Thursday, students attended a presentation on personal empowerment and community responsibility in regard to sexual assault and harassment prevention. Deputy Title IX Coordinator Lori Leblanc and Dean Conine tag-teamed the sessions, which Leblanc playfully called "Talking Sex with the Dean," in order to deliver the active message to new students.

"Let's be the class that changes culture and makes things better," Leblanc cheered after Conine's internet-humored request. She told the freshmen they were the very first class to receive this talk.

"I just think that your generation is so well-informed about gender issues, and my hope is that this translates into consent culture," Conine said. She admitted that talking to 18-year-olds about sex can be uncomfortable, and she chuckled through the whole presentation, but laughter can add to the teaching experience.

Story continues page 2



In lieu of their freshman orientation class students attended a presentation on sexual assualt and harassment prevention given by Dean Conine and Lori Leblanc. *Photo by Meg Denny*

Ward responds to student survey: It's on students now

cont'd. from Front

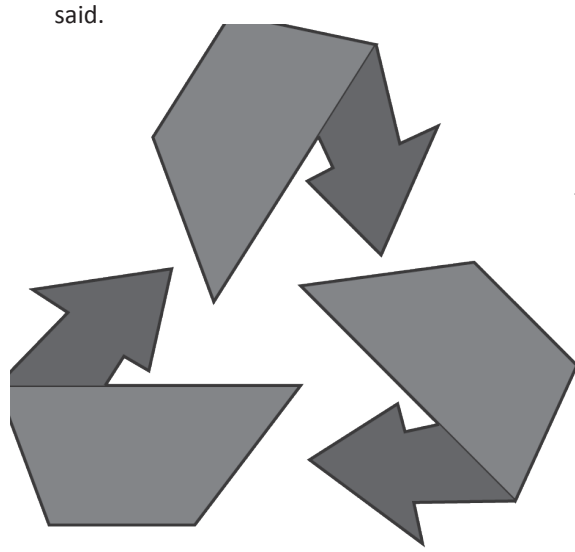
We have to be careful what we put in that single stream truck," Ward said.

Shreveport's utility website states: "Our program is unique in the fact that it is a Single-Stream Curbside Recycling system that requires each customer to put the recycling items in the cart provided for collection without requiring the customer to separate them. This is an easier process for the customer."

Northwestern's physical plant director Dale Wohletz said people dump stuff into the blue bins despite education. "If it becomes polluted they can't put it in their recycling bin," he said. It is very easy to throw something into a receptacle but not to sift through literal tons of material on a conveyer belt.

Ward emphasized the importance of knowing what can and cannot be put into a recycling receptacle: Glass, food product, paper bags, a water hose, or a plastic toys. When an item like glass breaks, it can mess up their lasers. Paper bags or Walmart bags can also mess up the rollers on a conveyer belt.

Ward encourages students to volunteer at the industries. "They have to sort by hand . . . the people who sort through that material don't want to sort through food waste," he said.



Ward said, as a general rule, people in the South don't treat recycling with importance. It is easy to blame the company who is picking it up but some people don't know any better. The driver knows what they will accept and what they won't.

Progressive collects NSU trash along with the trash of the people of Natchitoches. The university averages 2.6 tons per month during the academic year. During break it falls to half a ton to a ton a month because there is not as many people on campus.

Ward said the worst mixing of trash and recycling is during football season. Fans don't care about recycling because they are just looking for a receptacle.

The advice Ward gives to students is to monitor each other and make sure individuals put the correct items in the correct bin. It is important for students and faculty to take it upon themselves to be educated about what is recyclable.

Professor Pia Wyatt emphasized the importance of recycling to maintain a beautiful Louisiana. The city of Natchitoches was just awarded the "Best Small Town" title by readers of USA Today. Wyatt questioned: "How are we not trashing Louisiana if we don't recycle?" If the South has so much pride in itself then the residents should maintain its beauty.

Wohletz stated, "I think the [Progressive Waste Solutions] does as good of a job as they can do. It's now on the students' side."

Let's talk about sex

cont'd. from Front

Their presentation touched on multiple Title XI issues: bystander intervention, consent policy and gender-inclusive policies. The theme titled "It's On Us" is a campaign colleges are adopting nationwide. Leblanc decided to localize this campaign.

"It's on our Demon family to keep everyone safe," Leblanc said.

Demons4Demons is an upcoming program designed to improve NSU's safety and consent atmosphere. Leblanc said more than 30 freshmen signed-up to join this organization. She thinks this generation is promising due to their strong desire to "be active."

Conine and Leblanc delivered facts about sexual assault on campus, the campus counseling number and information about two new safety applications. We-Consent is one of the apps, which records your partner or yourself consenting or not consenting and immediately uploads it to a private space on the web.

Another app is titled Circleof6. This is a free app that can notify six friends about one's current situation. It can send the activator's location quickly with a text that reads, "Come and get me." Also, it can store hotline numbers and send texts to friends that say "Call me and pretend you need me. I need an excuse to leave."

"I'm glad they aren't trying to sweep this under the rug," freshmen psychology major Logan Turner said.

Turner was happy to see the school taking a proactive approach to these issues. Jacob Ware, a freshmen studying humanities and social thought, said he already knew about consent culture, but not everyone has that advantage.

"I take this information for granted, but it's crucial to people who haven't heard it before," he said.

Leblanc emphasized that they plan to listen to feedback given by students on their presentation. "It's all about your generation: the students' generation," she said. "We're listening."

Student starts new service fraternity on campus

Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

Ryan Perry's idea became a reality when he visualized a multicultural service organization on campus this fall. The idea came to him over the summer when he noticed custodians picking up various amounts of trash around campus. He thought: "It shouldn't be a person's job to pick-up someone else's trash."

He saw a new social fraternity that would not only be a service society, but also a place for new ideas to flourish for the sake of helping others. Now his picture has a name: Delta Alpha Zeta.

Justin West, treasurer of the new organization, described Ryan's approach as the "driving force" when establishing the organization. He said he pulled him in and then made the "passion possible."

"He's the driver of the pick-up truck and we're running in front of it," newest member and appointed risk manager Jeffrey Bogard said.

Perry said establishing a new organization was a difficult task. He first had to talk with the Director of Student Activities and Organizations Yonna Pasch. Then he needed to research and create a constitution and find the organization its current adviser Jim Crawford, assistant professor of Spanish. Lastly, he needed to recruit members.

West described the organization as one that can't be found anywhere else. Literally, it does not exist anywhere else in the country. Two differences are that members can participate in other Greek organizations alongside Delta Alpha Zeta and that they accept both male and female members.

"We are not trying to overtake any other organization," West said. "We just want this organization to be accessible to anyone who wants to work hard and accomplish something."

West also supports Perry's stance regarding the trash within the community. He said he doesn't like it when he hears the city nicknamed "Nacitrash."

"I've always wanted to make a positive difference," West said.

The organization's appointed Chaplin, Blade Trahan, thinks participation within the organization will be a wonderful opportunity to help others on campus, within the community and on a "larger scale" in other areas around the state.

"It feels nice to be the person who cares for a person who's in need of it," Trahan said.

Perry said the organization's first job is to clean up Natchitoches, but in the future he wants to participate in helping charities, filling shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child, volunteering on the campus food pantry and funding water-filtering systems for various places around the world who need clean water to drink.

With a $5 activation fee and a $75 membership fee, it is very affordable West said they designed the organization to be as affordable as they could. So far, 18 students decided to become members of Delta Alpha Zeta as a result.

For more information about Delta Alpha Zeta or about membership, Perry encourages everyone to contact him through his number 318.588.0253.



Ryan Perry, founder of Delta Alpha Zeta Fraterninty. *Photo by Emilee Self*



Graphic by Jacbob Contreras

State funds multi-purpose center, construction pending long term

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

Did student fees pay for Prather?
The reconstruction of Prather Coliseum's parking lot began in the spring semester of 2015, and finished over the summer. Word of mouth speculated that the money to fund reconstruction came from student fees. Large building projects around campus aren't usually funded by the university, but by capital outlay.

Capital outlay is money extended to the university through state funds. Colleges, universities, public schools, health care facilities or parishes as a whole can make requests for this money. The broad spectrum of eligibility for capital outlay makes the process long. Renovations of Varnado Hall and the replacement of Kyser Hall were first requested in 2009.

Gil Gilson works at the Facility Services Complex on campus.

"Each project is broken up into different categories, They're called priorities," said Gilson. "We have one project to bring all campuses up to ADA compliance (Americans with Disabilities Act)."

This year NSU requested around $900,000 in capital outlay. In five years they will request $11 million dollars.

A priority one-project means that it has gone through legislature and 10 percent of the requested amount is given for planning. Projects that are currently in priority one are the extension of South Jefferson Dr., the renovation of Roy Hall, the building of a multi-purpose assembly center and the re-roofing of campus buildings.

A Multi-Purpose Assembly Center is waiting final funding. The purposes of the center will include, but are not limit to: commencement, concerts, conventions, seminars, camps, clinics and athletic events. It will also be used for Economic Development in Natchitoches, Winn, Red River and Grant Parishes.

Dr. Marcus Jones is the vice president of Student Affairs and is also one of the supervisors of dealings with capital outlay.
"It all boils down to providing a learning environment that is modern and conducive for the students," said Jones.
Jones suggests that the students look at the Student Services building and at the location of the services within each office compared to where they were located before. They were dispersed throughout the campus.

In order for students to get an issue with financial aid resolved, they had to go to Roy Hall. To pay a bill, often times they had to go to St. Denise Hall. Now they are all centrally located.

"This is something that would have not been made possible if it wasn't for capital outlay process," Jones said.

Rumor speculated around campus was the return of the indoor swimming pool, the Natatorium. Jones said that the Natatorium is one of the buildings on the plan for capital outlay process.

"We have a five year plan, and it is on there," Jones said. "One of the issues with the Natatorium is that it is such a big project, financially, because not only do we have the structural issues, we also have the ADA related issues. That is several hundreds of thousands of dollars just for ADA compliance."

Reasons for the closing of the Natatorium include not meeting the requirements for ADA and piping.

LGBTQ Pride arises at NSU

An-gel Samuel
Contributing Writer

President Aaron Rodgers and Vice President Dylan Graves worked together alongside English Instructor Ms. Lori LeBlanc to form an LGBTQ organization on campus.

The purpose of this organization is to make the campus equality friendly and establish a safe place for anyone to be themselves.

"This organization is about the LGBTQ inclusion and acceptance. Also affirming the campus for LGBTQ students and allies." said junior Dylan Graves.

Future plans for this organization will be discussed and finalized throughout the meetings with the help of the rest of the members.

Anyone is welcome to come, participate and join-in the meetings. Informative fliers will be posted around campus next week.

The group will hold meetings on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. on the third floor of the Student Union.

For more information, students can follow NSULA Pride on Instagram or 'Like' the Nsula Pride-LGBTQ page on Facebook. For exclusive details or to find out more about the club students can also email Aaron Rodgers at arodgers025705@nusla.edu.

Eager Demons attend career fair

Damian Glover
PR/Online

The Office of Counseling and Career Services held its fall Career Fair that showcased local and national organizations to juniors and seniors who will be graduating soon. Over 30 organizations were present, and well and over 200 students attended throughout the day.

Some of the organizations that were in attendance were the graduate school here at Northwestern State University, the College of Education and Human Development, as well as the nationwide food chain, Sonic.

The Career Fair is a time of tremendous exposure that in return increases many students' interest in companies, organizations and post-graduate programs. Junior Jessica Boutte found the career fair to be very helpful in planning her future. "Prior to coming to this event this morning, I really had no idea what direction I wanted my degree to take me," Boutte said. "After meeting with organizations and their direct contacts, I was able to learn of the many possibilities that could be afforded to me by just networking and putting myself out there."

Career Services, the host of the event, helped NSU students and alumni plan, prepare and promote their careers in several different ways. They also partner with local and national employers to bring a variety of internships and jobs to qualified applicants at the university. Organizations can gain potential candidates by conducting information interest sessions with students prior and post the Career Fair. Students can also create a referral system by networking and building relations with not only the faculty and staff of Northwestern but of potential companies who are present.

Senior Victoria Stockston attended the job fair and found the resources provided very useful to her. "Although I am looking into going to the education field and most companies that were present weren't related to education, I found out information about a future job fair that will focus just on the educational field," Stockston said. "If I wouldn't have attended this event, there is no way that I could have known about this future opportunity."

The Office of Counseling and Career Services will also be holding a spring and summer job fair that will be on Feb. 16 from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. in the student union ballroom, a teacher job fair that will be held on April 5, from 8:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. in the student union ballroom, and an Ark-La-Tex College Fair that will be held in April of 2016 at the Bossier Civic Center.

Individuals who are interested in attending future job fairs, or want to be added to the mailing list about future events, please contact Traci LaBomm Norris at labomt@nsula.edu.



Dr. Jim Henderson stopped by the UTF letters on Wednesday to contribute a name in chalk. *Submitted by Jessica Gabor*

We want YOU for Unite to Fight

Megan Boyanton
Life Editor

During the spring semester, Northwestern State's student body and organizations geared-up for the annual school-wide service event: Unite to Fight. This year, in order to promote the service project and its cause ahead of time, the executive board and volunteers held their Fall Awareness Week.

From Sept. 14-17, the team behind Unite to Fight engaged students with activities to prepare for the philanthropic fundraiser. All the proceeds will benefit St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Social Media Awareness Day was held on Monday as the kick-off to the week. Held in the student union, the members encouraged each passerby to interact with the event's profiles on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter for free cupcakes.

On Tuesday, Chili's Give Back Night occurred from 5 p.m. to the closing time at the Natchitoches restaurant. For every dinner bought, a donation of 10 percent of the bill went to St. Jude if a Unite to Fight flyer was presented to servers.

Wednesday — otherwise known as "I Fight For . . . Day"— involved an interactive concept to those in the student union from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Large wooden "UTF" letters stood outside of Vic's, alongside a sign stating, "Cancer affects everyone. Grab some chalk. Tell us who you fight for."

Each passerby had the opportunity to write in chalk the names of those within their own lives who were diagnosed with the disease.

"I think the students received the week quite well, especially the 'I Fight For . . . Day,'" Executive Director Damian Glover said. "It really hit home for a lot of students and caused them to stop and be active."

Thursday marked the end of Fall Awareness Week with Hats Off For Hope. From 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., volunteers stood at the Natchitoches campus' four-way stop to collect change from drivers.

Those accustomed to Unite to Fight's traditional set-up will be surprised by its transformation in the spring.

"There will be some changes for the big event," Glover said.

"This year, we aren't doing any letter writing, and it will be a lot smaller, but a lot easier for students to get involved. The big event is sort of like our party and release of all the money that we raise and awareness that has been spread."

With Glover at the helm of the event, Amber Blanchard acts as Assistant Director on the executive board of the event. The Coordinator of Campus and Public Relations is Jessica Gabor, while Michel'le Feaster serves as the Coordinator of Volunteer Services. Additionally, Emilie King holds the position of the Coordinator of Team Development and Katelon Ramos performs the duties of the Coordinator of Event Logistics. The Coordinator of Event Services is Suni Pool Nelson, while Megan Duhon acts as the Coordinator of Fundraising Initiatives and Side Events.

Volunteer meetings are held by the Student Activities Board every Monday at 3 p.m. for those interested in Unite to Fight.



Cooking with Vic

John Hurt
Contributing Writer

Ingredients

- Nacho Cheese Doritos
- 1 lb. hamburger meat
- Taco seasoning
- 1 can of Rico's Nacho Cheese
- Pace Mild Salsa
- Shredded Lettuce
- Shredded cheese

To prepare this cheesy snack, brown the hamburger meat in a heating pan and add the taco seasoning according to the package directions.

Open the Rico's Cheese and pour into a sauce pan. Then, set the heat on low. Make sure to read the can and see if it says to thin it down with water.

Once the cheese is in the pan stir frequently until it is completely melted. Otherwise, it'll stick and burn. In my experience, burnt cheese does not taste good.

Take a plate and layer the bottom with Nacho Cheese Doritos and add the hamburger meat to the top of the bed of Doritos.

Next, take the Rico's cheese that you heated in the pan and add it to the top of the Doritos and meat.

Add the amount of Pace Salsa you want to the aforementioned Doritos, meat and cheese.

Lastly, top your desired amount of shredded cheese and lettuce and grab a drink.

If you like food on the spicy side, substitute for spicy Nacho Cheese Doritos or mild salsa for hot, and Rico's makes a hot flavor of cheese. You can also choose to garnish yours with hot peppers.

The Current Sauce apologizes to Holli' Conway and Brooke Howard for the mistake in labeling in the last issue.



Holli' Conway gave her best RENT-inspired style tips. *Photo by Tyra Morrison*

Demon Style

Outfit of the issue featuring Holli Conway

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

Featured today is Holli' Conway— a musical theatre major who I spotted in the student union.

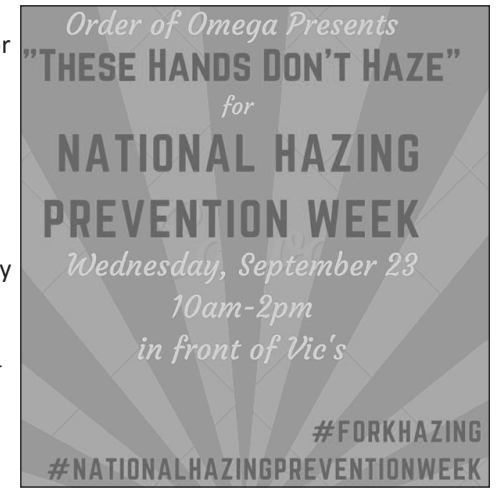
The inspiration behind the outfit:
Holli was in the flash mob at the Purple Paloozza earlier this month to promote the upcoming RENT production, so she decided to dress the part. Her direct inspiration is the character she plays in the performance! She went for a roughed up, tough look to resemble her character, who happens to be a stripper.

Style advice:
She said she was no good at fashion, so I asked her, "What's some fashion trends on campus that aggravate you?" Holli told me she had witnessed someone wearing shorts that were "too long to be shorts and too short to be pants with long socks and some slides." She laughed, "It wasn't good."

Vibe for the day:
"It makes me feel like a bad-A. I feel like a rocker. Bad girl."

NSU Greek Life wants to #ForkHazing

Kayla Ryan
Contributing Writer



National Hazing Prevention Week is the week of Sept. 21-25 and it serves as a time for campuses, communities and organizations to educate others about hazing and its frequent occurrences.

The Assistant Director of Student Life Shayne Creppel defined NSU's understanding of hazing as "any action taken or situation created intentionally or unintentionally with or without consent that endangers a student or creates risk of injury, produces mental or physical harm, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule whether on or off campus for the purpose of affiliation with, initiation into, or as a condition of continued membership in any student organization, performance group, or athletic team recognized by Northwestern State University."

The stereotypical assumption is that hazing occurs mostly within college life and fraternities. This is the result of movies made over the years showing hazing as a main portion of those lifestyles: "Animal House," "American Pie" and, most recently, "Neighbors."

Despite the media's recent attention, most fraternities have specific rules banning any form of hazing.

"We're pretty strict on hazing," Kappa Alpha president Will Anglin said. "If any pledge feels disrespected then the active is questioned and possibly punished, for example suspension or possibly expulsion from the chapter."

If someone is charged with hazing in the state of Louisiana, the person would either be fined between $10 and $100 or imprisoned for 10 days or as much as a month. Sometimes, if it's called for, the person can receive both. In addition, the student shall be expelled from his or her educational institution and not permitted to return during the current session or term in which the violation occurs. (Part III Miscellaneous Provisions Sect. 17: 1801 Hazing prohibited; penalties).

While this law covers the entire state of Louisiana, it is deemed necessary for each parish, city and other local school boards to develop their own policy. Northwestern's policy on hazing can be found on Northwestern's website.



ISEP exchange students Kanako Terachi, Miku Takahashi and Masaru Suwa will be bringing the "Fork 'Em!" pitchfork back to Japan. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Japanese students join the Demon family

Rhiannon Dean
Contributing Writer

Many students on campus have heard of the International Student Exchange Program and wonder what exactly it entails. Dr. Keith Dromm, a professor at the Scholars' College, acts as the school's liaison for ISEP.

Two Japanese exchange students currently attending NSU — Kanako Terachi and Masaru Suwa — gave their opinions on their experiences thus far in Natchitoches.

Terachi enjoys the beautiful nature, the friendly people and the university events.

Studying in the United States has been a long-term dream of hers.

"Most universities don't hold any events," Terachi said.

She dislikes American junk food, ants and the lack of sanitation.

"Compared to Japan, I feel people here don't care about cleanliness, and ants never bite my legs in Japan!" she said.

Terachi studies English Communication back in Japan, but doesn't have a major at NSU. While here, she has been able to improve her English skills. She will be abroad for two semesters until May 2016.

Suwa also enjoys the people in Louisiana and the events.

His reasoning behind studying abroad was to study French, Spanish and English. He'll be enrolled at NSU until next summer, where he has appreciated the teaching style and his new friendships.

"These things are awesome, and I believe that these experiences will make me grow," Suwa said.

Q & A with *Dr. Keith Dromm*

Q: How does the program and its funding work?
A: *"The long and short of it is: students pay, go to another school, then transfer credits back to NSU. Students must pay for transportation, but the university pays the rest."*

Q: What are the pros and cons of involvement?
A: *"Students may have personal cons, such as fear of flying, but there's mainly pros, such as learning a different culture, résumé enhancement, learning a new language and personal growth."*

Sound of September:

Throw out those tired summer jams

Paxton Britt
Contributing Writer

The month of September brings an expected drop in temperatures, but unique to September 2015 is the drop of some highly anticipated albums.

Lana del Rey released her fourth studio album "Honeymoon" on Sept. 18.



The ethereal space created by del Rey takes listeners to the landscapes from which she found inspiration.

The sophomore album titled "Paradise" makes you proud to be an "American" and the lullaby of "Bel Air" surrounds you with a feeling of affluence and luxury.

The release of "Ultraviolence" last year brought the vibe of Los Angeles with "West Coast" and the lifestyle of a true "Brooklyn Baby" born and raised. "Honeymoon" brings singles like "High by the Beach" an anthem of leaving your cares behind.

The awesome thing about her music is that when you're feeling low or need a vacation, her soothing ballad style vocals paired with slang modern lyrics, provide the perfect escape.

In 2013, Chvrches, a relatively new electro pop group from Glasgow released their first single, and after a few months it was topping charts across the globe.

The track "The Mother We Share" paved the way to an incredible debut album: "The Bones of What You Believe."

The album was a massive success and led to songs featured on major film soundtracks including "The Hunger Games."

Lead singer, Lauren Mayberry, used the band's success to become an advocate for Feminism and freedom of expression, making her a prominent figure in the music world.

Chvrches will release their sophomore album titled "Every Open Eye" Sept. 25.

For now, listen to the singles from the album such as "Leave A Trace" and the latest single "Clearest Blue."

I promise you this is an album you do not want to overlook.

The album I am most excited for this month comes from a group comprised of two brothers and multiple drum pads.

The Lawrence brothers are the British electro pop band Disclosure.

Their first album titles "Settle" included collaborations with upcoming artists like London Grammar, Jessie Ware and Sam Smith. The track "Latch" featuring vocals by Sam Smith became a major hit around the globe.

That success resulted in a second collaboration with Smith on Disclosure's second studio album "Caracal."

The new song titled "Omen" is climbing the charts just as the previous "Latch" had done. The collaboration that I am the most stoked for is the track "Magnets" featuring the one and only Lorde.

The album release is Sept. 25, so get ready to dance.



Graphic by Jacob Contreras

Albums

1. **Lana Del Rey**
   Honeymoon
2. **Chvches**
   Every Open Eye
3. **Disclosure**
   Caracal
4. **Beach House**
   Depression Cherry
5. **Rudimental**
   We The Generation
6. **Fetty Wap**
   Fetty Wap
7. **Gabrielle Aplin**
   Light Up The Dark
8. **Metric**
   Pagans in Vegas

Singles

1. **Metric**
   Fortunes
2. **Chvrches**
   Never Ending Circles
3. **Lapsley**
   Hurt Me
4. **ElVy**
   I'm the Man to be
5. **Elohim**
   Xanax
6. **Grace Potter**
   Look what I've Becor
7. **Shura**
   Indecision
8. **Small Black**
   No One Wants It To Happen To You

The Good Boys and True Review

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

Good Boys and True" is a suspenseful, humorous, and impactful piece of drama. Written by Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa and directed by Senior Hector Peña, the play showed Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening in the Jack Wyann Theater. The venue had a limited seating of 42 which is the main character's, Brandon Hardy played by Thomas Hadzeriga, football number.

Peña is a Scholars' Liberal Arts major with a concentration in performance and directing. "Good Boys and True" was one of the first pieces Peña read after coming to college. He chose this play for its incredible plot and the statement it makes.

"I hope it strikes some kind of chord, any chord just to get people to think," Peña said.

Peña only had three weeks to put on the entire production. Auditions were the first day of classes and the cast and crew practiced every day since.

Forty people auditioned for a cast that included three guys and three girls. Peña said he was faced with many talented students, and the decision was difficult because many were equally qualified. Peña explained the plot of the play as being relevant in our society.

He stated, "It's all about society and how privilege is detrimental sometimes to an individual's personal truth."

The plot arises around a timeless conflict of people repressing themselves because they can afford to. It is set in and around an all-boys catholic high school in Washington D.C.

"The whole message is that if you hide what you really are and you are not comfortable with it for yourself then it'll still come out, it'll just be twisted," detailed Peña.

The play reflects the time that we live in and how wealth is influential. It made a powerful statement about the importance of being true to oneself and treating others well. The entire show was well done and had the audience constantly shocked and wondering what would happen next.

The cast performed exceptionally well with this difficult piece.

The production crew was also composed of all students and was well put together to fit a challengingly small venue.

A congratulations is in order for each student who was a part of creating this production and each member of our society needs to learn the lessons this play teaches.

Meat Pie Festival Collaborates with KNWD: A Night of Meat Pies and Music

cont'd from Front



Photo by Ashley Wolf

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

The community reached out and it initially surprised us because the music is not typical Natchitoches music," said KNWD General Manager Katelon Ramos. "After they heard that we were raising money for music education, they were really supportive."

The first day of the Meat Pie Festival, live bands ranging from alternative rock to EDM occupied the Riverfront Stage from the afternoon into the night while KNWD staff accepted donations.

The line-up included local bands T-Funk and Kopacetic; DJ BRDFRD, an NSU alumni; and Stoop Kids and The Electric Sons, bands that appeared at Demonfest last spring.

Although the second day of the Meat Pie Festival returned to its traditional Louisiana roots with Zydeco music and line dancing, the first night was all about the college students. For the first time at the Meat Pie Festival, 200 to 300 students danced and ate festival food while EDM boomed through the enormous speakers and stage lights illuminated the trees.

Senior Taylor LeGrand was surprised that in her four years at NSU, she had never seen a collaboration between the college and the community like this.

"Events like this keep students involved and part of the community," she said. "These students are the ones that will continue and enrich the community in the future."

NS'U' Voice

Do you think Kim Davis is justified in denying same-sex couples marriage licenses on the basis of her religious beliefs?



"She was sworn in to uphold the law, and now refuses. If it offended her so deeply, she could have just resigned."

-Alanna Hailey, senior, Music Education major



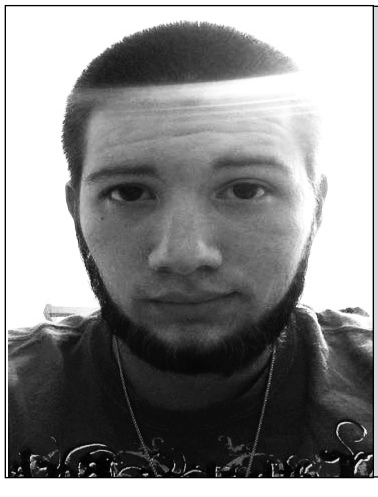
"Her position as a Clerk of Court directly answers to the government. As a public servant, it is her duty to follow the law of the land, and her actions show an intentional disregard for this."

-Jordan Reich,
Sophomore Liberal Arts major



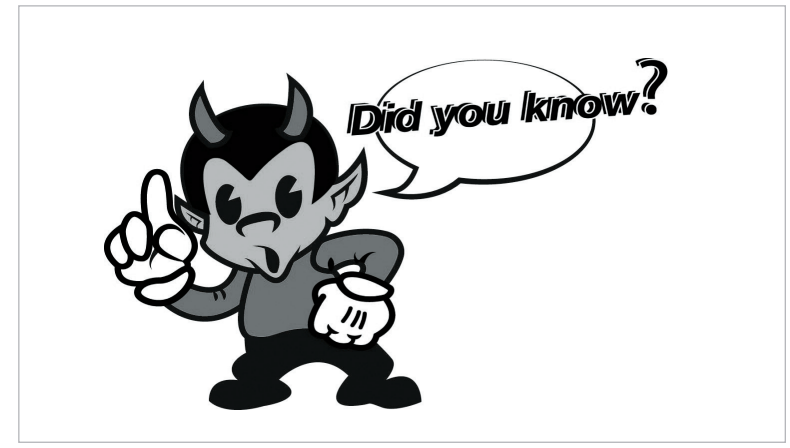
"Kim Davis has the right to religious freedom and is entitled to her opinion. As a federal employee, she is obligated to uphold federal law, which now includes issuing marriage licenses to same sex couples."

-Donato Susca,
Sophomore, Marketing major



"If she is claiming religious freedom, then she shouldn't give out marriage licenses to people that have gotten divorced, uses contraception... She was breaking the law. Plain and simple. You can't use your religious beliefs as a grounds if you are working for the government."

-Blade Trahan,
Senior Psychology major



Natchitoches' twin

Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

As the tale has been told throughout Natchitoches, the town received its name from one of the two twin sons that were born to an old Caddo Indian Chief living along the Sabine River.

As their father neared the end of his days, he called his sons into his presence to receive his final blessings. He commanded that, upon his death, Natchitoches should gather his wife and children, turn his face toward the rising sun, and after traveling three days, build his home and rear a tribe. His other son, Nacogdoches, was instructed to face the opposite direction—the setting sun—walk three days with his family and establish a new home where he, too, would establish his tribe. Thus, the twin tribes of Nacogdoches and Natchitoches were born 100 miles apart—one in Louisiana and another in Texas.

There is speculation on whether the story is true or a figment of a Texas historian, R.B. Blake of Nacogdoches, in 1939 as part of a booklet produced by the Nacogdoches Historical Society.

There were, however, Caddo Indian tribes known as Nacogdoches and Natchitoches. And, yes, there are towns by the same name.

While Nacogdoches has adhered to Blake's original story, Natchitoches uses a different twist. In its version, as reported by the Chamber of Commerce to Bob Bowman of the TexasEscapes online column, the Indian chief banished his twin sons to the east and west.

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The Current Sauce

How 'bout them peaches?

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

There she is, Miss America," also known as Miss Georgia. After almost taking a tumble on stage, Opera-singing and fumbling with her on-stage question, Betty Cantrell received the desired crown on Sep. 13. Cantrell is only the second to be crowned from the peach-state since 1958. In the days following, the pageant took some heat from several talk shows and viewers. From Miss Colorado's monologue to the newly crowned Miss America's cringe-worthy on-stage question, people were buzzing online in disbelief of how the night transpired.

Calling it a "bad question," many people did not blame Cantrell for her messy answer of whether or not Tom Brady cheated.

"If there was any question to be had, I think that he definitely cheated, and that he should've been suspended," Cantrell said. Miss Cane River 2015, Lincoln Pearce, is happy to see Miss Georgia take home the crown.

"I was rooting for Miss Louisiana for obvious reasons, but I believe Miss Georgia deserved it," Pearce said. "Sure, she had a rough time with her question, but it happens to the best of us and her talent was amazing." Pearce said that on-stage questions typically pale in comparison to the unseen interviews that each contestant completes.

Though the winner, Miss Georgia, did not receive the backlash that followed Miss Colorado's monologue—an original piece describing her time as a nurse. Upon asking Pearce her opinion of it, she replied: "It was a speech, not a talent." Miss Georgia later explained how the preparation to sing and dance is not even comparable to Colorado's "little speech."

Pearce is not the only one who felt this way. In fact, those the television show "The View" had some very strong opinions of Kelley Johnson—Miss Colordo—and her "talent." Comparing her performance to "reading her emails out loud," Michelle Collins caused an uproar among nurses and their supporters everywhere. Two sponsors of the show—Johnson & Johnson and Eggland's Best have publicly pulled their ads from the show and have been posting "#NursesUnite" on social media. Personally, I think that no matter what, the contestants of the show have a target on their backs. They will have supporters and haters, but overall, being on that stage is brave. As for my acceptance of the new Miss America, it's a yes from me.



Miss Georgia, Betty Cantrell, is an awe after being crowned 2016 Miss America. *Photo from Creative Commons*

Go Pro or go home: Potential Planned Parenthood funding cuts enrage student

Megan Boyanton
Life Editor

Pro-life and pro-choice— the political argument around abortion in the U.S. often splits into two distinct sides without a gray area to be seen. In the midst of these black and white opinions on the issue is now the very real possibility of a government shutdown this week.

The GOP, ultimately citing religion as valid argument against the practice, has acted on its radical stance for once, bringing along the power of its pro-life bumper stickers and accusations of infant genocide.

The greatest Republican adversary in this struggle? Planned Parenthood: the organization that, yes, provides abortion services, but is popular among women for its accessibility when it comes to STD testing and treatment, contraception and cancer screening and prevention.

The organization has come under a hail of slanderous claims since the House of Representatives and its congregation of white, male Baby Boomers — who I assume have never been pregnant— passed a proposal with a tight vote of 241-187 to defund it.

Now, the measure, the *Defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2015*, is at the hands of the Senate. Let's disregard the fact that it's Planned Parenthood because this is the root of a monstrous problem.

When pregnant women — who could be rape victims, teenagers or living in desolate poverty, mind you — are forced to give birth, who will care for these children? Will the GOP when that woman needs healthcare, government assistance and a means of good education for her baby? That's a fat no.

Why do male politicians feel the need to make decisions for women? How can someone in Washington D.C. take my freedom to choose away?

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The loner in a group of stoners

Mary Jane
Anonymous Writer

Hello NSU Student Body:
I'm a student who doesn't smoke but endures many smoke sessions just to be with my friends and I know I'm not the only one out there.

Personally, I dislike smoking and dread the horrid smell that's left lingering on everything. Call me naïve, but before coming to college, I never knew so many people smoked or were willing to smoke. I had a shocking revelation and, suddenly, I was thrown into a world where smoking was a favorite pass time.

It is so uncomfortable being the one person in the group that doesn't smoke. I know I'm really not missing out on anything, but I feel like the little kid that's not tall enough to ride the rollercoaster as I sit back and watch the weed being 'puffed and passed' right passed me.

Periodically, I'm asked, "You don't smoke?" or "Why don't you smoke?" I do not understand how it is so shocking that I don't smoke. I just don't. I enjoy my brain development and lung strength.

When my friends begin to reach their high, my annoyance starts rising as everyone starts to think everything is funny.

Have you ever been around someone high? They say some pretty crazy stuff. Especially if you have that one friend who suddenly has all these mind blowing revelations they must share.

I'm always sitting there wondering just what is really going through their minds. Attempting a conversation is futile, because the simplest question like "How high are you?" could result in a response along the lines of: "No, it's pronounced 'Hi how are you?'"

If you're like me, you tough it out and try to not "kill anyone's high" as many of my friends say. You don't want to leave so you try to stay during these smoke sessions and almost end up with smoker's cough just from the second hand smoke. You sit back, puzzled at the enjoyment your friends get out of this.

Being the nonsmoker has put me into some odd situations, but I'm never afraid to be the one on the outside. If you find yourself in similar situations, just consider your health and question whether it's really worth it to succumb to the peer pressure. If you ask me, I think I'll just stick to getting high on life.



Demons optimistic about conference

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

The Demons had their hands full Saturday evening as they visited Starkville and took on the Bulldogs of Mississippi State. It wasn't much of a battle, but more an outlook on the Demons' future as they prepare to resume conference play for the remainder of their season.

"Although we had a rough three games, I'm really excited for conference," senior safety Chase Collins said. "Now it's time to get into conference play and for everybody to get their head back leveled and get ready to win a championship."

The Purple Swarm defense managed to get two turnovers on the Bulldogs, both of which were fumbles, but still gave up more than 600 total offensive yards to a team that was once nationally ranked first in FBS last year. The Demons maintained the time of possession by 20 minutes more than the Bulldogs while putting up 257 total yards, 146 of which were on the ground.

"I thought we played the game very well both running and passing, but you also have to consider the opponent you're playing," head coach Jay Thomas said. "Our defense fought, but we gave up too many big plays again."

A week prior, the Bulldogs lost a heart-breaker at home to LSU, holding them to a close knit game. That didn't do any good for the Demons, as the Bulldogs unleashed a fury of back-to-back scoring drives that ran up the scoreboard. Running back De'Mard Llorens was the only Demon to score a touchdown as he accounted for 47 yards off 10 attempts. Kicker Chris Moore was the other scorer for the Demons as he knocked in a 26-yarder and a whopping 52-yard field goal in the second quarter.

"I feel really good that we have some rhythm offensively, now we can really move the football." Thomas said. "We got some answers across the board and we have quarterbacks that can move the ball down the field."

J.D. Almond received the start that night as he faced off against his high school alumni, State's Dak Prescott, who both played at Haughton High School. Prescott was nearly perfect for the night as he only had one missed pass, throwing for 227 yards and two touchdowns before being taken out during the second half. Thomas switched between three quarterbacks during the game as all but Daniel Hazlewood received a chance to play.

"I feel confident about next weeks' game because we're doing things and getting better each week." Almond said. "As long as we keep putting things together and moving in the right direction, we'll be good, there's always room for improvement."

This Saturday is marked Family Day for NSU, as the Demons (0-3) will host the Bears of Central Arkansas (0-2) for a 6 p.m. kickoff time, as they're set to start their conference play. The game will be televised on ESPN3.



(Top) Demon's Almond scrambled away from Bulldogs players during a first half drive. (Right) Demon players tackled Bulldogs wide receiver Fred Ross along the sideline.

Photos by Chris Reich

Demon Dash a success

Darius Brock
Feature Writer

Today was NSU's first ever Demon Dash hosted by the Director of First Year Experience, Reatha Cox, along with her team. This event gave students a chance to get acquainted with the athletes.

"It was definitely connecting and all around fun," Cox said.

To keep things interesting, the students were split into teams and sent around to meet and greet the athletes as they practiced. Almost every team was showcased in this tour style event.

The first stop along the trip was to the football field, where students took turns kicking 10-yard field goals. Emily King hosted that event.

The baseball team opened its diamond to allow students to take turns hitting pitches, while getting some fielding practice as well. The head baseball coach Lane Burroughs, assistant coach Bobby Barbier, director of baseball operations Scott Nabors and Faith Stanfield hosted that event.

Next, the softball team gave students a challenge requiring them to spin in circles before attempting to hit a softball. Stephanie Parker was in charge of that event. Our soccer team, who has a game Friday night, taught students some footwork drills and team building obstacle courses.

After that, students hit the basketball courts to play our men's and women's team in games of knockout. Assistant men's coach Bill Lewit alongside Hunter Horton helped keep the gym flowing traffic free.

The two final events were running track relays and practicing tennis serves with Curtis Fennell. Tennis coach Olga Bazahanova gave students a glimpse of live action as she played a match against some of our tennis athletes. Coach George Vanlinder and Anna Gasperecz cheered on students as they helped Cox pass out Gatorade after the activities.

The Demon Dash was a remarkable experience, especially for Vontresia Barber. Barber, who was shy and timid about participating at first, soon gained encouragement from her NSU family as she found herself nailing a field goal, beating the women's basketball team in knockout and smacking a home run over the fence.

"Demon Dash was a huge success," Leighann Westfall said. "I felt it was a great opportunity to connect athletes to students and really increase student support at games."

Congratulations to Vontresia and all the students who came out to participate.



Photo submitted by Darius Brock



Lady Demons soccer team dispersed after a weekday practice. They are set to have two home games this week, one Friday, Sept. 25, against Lamar and one Sunday, Sept. 27, against Incarnate World. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

Soccer team looking for big break

Ben Wellman
Sports Reporter

The Lady Demon soccer team hasn't qualified for the Southland Conference tournament since 2008, and they're looking to break that funk.

After opening conference play with a 1-1 double overtime draw at Stephen F. Austin, the Lady Demons will play their first conference match on home soil on Sept. 25 against Lamar.

The result against SFA, who has won the regular season title for the Southland Conference three years in a row, was a pivotal one for the Lady Demons, as the point they got from this draw was their first against the Lady Jacks since 2008.

"We told our team that playing in conference is a different level, and the intensity is jacked up," head coach George van Linder said. "Only time will tell as we all play in the conference, but we're excited about coming away with points."

The draw for the Lady Demons brought their record to 3-4-2 for the season, and they'll be welcoming a Lamar team with a 5-4 record to Natchitoches.

Lamar began their conference play with a late 1-0 victory over Nicholls, with the lone goal coming from forward Mari Olastuen, who is third in points for the Cardinals this season.

Ahead of Olastuen in points for the Cardinals this season are forward Alexus Aviles, with 15 points off of seven goals and an assist, and forward Jordan Mulnix, with 14 points off of six goals and two assists. Mulnix is the younger sister of 2014 NSU graduate Taylor Mulnix.

The Sept. 25 game looks to have a decent goalkeeper battle. Sophomore Lauren Lovejoy has spent the bulk of the Cardinals' games in goal this season, and she, as well as freshman Lauren Bond, have allowed a total of 17 goals through nine games this season.

The Lady Demons have their own staple of keepers to rely on. Senior Brooke Bourbonais and sophomore Alex Latham have split time between the posts this season, having allowed 12 goals between the two of them through their nine games this season.

Both goalkeepers have made some good saves this season. Bourbonais, in particular, came up with a penalty kick save against SFA.

"Other schools here might have the best goalkeeper in the conference, but for tandems, our three goalkeepers we have, I don't think anyone has a better three than we have," van Linder said. "I'm so proud of them. They keep showing up night after night doing that, saving penalty kicks and making big saves."

Offensively for the Lady Demons, last season's leading scorer, sophomore forward Esdeina Gonzalez, scored the lone goal against SFA and is slowly regaining her scoring touch. Freshman forward Kayleigh Phillips leads the team in points with nine from four goals and an assist, with fellow freshman forward Brittany Caserma second in points with six from three goals.

A tightly contested match looms on the horizon between the Lady Demons and the Cardinals, and the home side will be looking to take home the victory. Kickoff is Sept. 25 at 7 p.m.

Phone Apps For Safe Travel



Companion: Never Walk Alone. Your Personal Safety Service and Mobile Blue Light. In a scary neighborhood? Mark it on your map, or call the police from the app, if needed. Available for free in the app store.



We-Consent records your partner or yourself consenting or not consenting and immediately uploads it to a private space on the web.



Circle of 6 is a free app that can notify six friends about one's current situation. It can send the activator's location quickly with a text that asks them to come get you.

Helping and Reporting at NSU:

Dean of Students: 357-5286

NSU Counseling: 357-5621

Confidential Advisor: 357-5570

For emergencies, contact the University Police: 357-5431

NSU's Not Alone Webpage: www.nsula.edu/notalone/

Photo by Steven Sheerin

Showcase displays faculty talent in CAPA
Page 4



Student defends post about racial inequalty in campus ad
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Crew rows distance to Tennessee championship
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THE CURRENT SAUCE



Condoms are available for free in Health Services but the statistics they contain worry some. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Condom controversy:

Protection with a questionable message

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

A student who walks into the Health Services building on campus to find state-funded, free condoms in the lobby will see a colorful paper the condoms are wrapped in. The text on the paper says, "100% Protection," covered with a circle-backslash symbol. When opened, the paper reveals a flyer including abstinence protection effectiveness statistics and four Atlas Premium Latex Condoms.

Director of Health Services Stephanie Campbell said the statistics on the flier are an attempt to educate students.

"There's a lot of people who don't understand how prevalent Sexually Transmitted Infections are." Campbell said. The flyer provides information on the risks of STIs when condoms are used. She affirmed that the information comes from the National Institute of Health.

Purple, white and teal: Northwestern supports ovarian cancer awareness

Kayla Ryan
Contributing Writer

Over recent months, the color blue has been a national indicator of the Blue Lives Matter movement, a cause in honor of police officers everywhere slain in the line of duty.

After the iconic columns on campus-- typically glowing purple at night-- were lit up blue on Monday, Sept. 21, many students were surprised to find the reasoning to be another, lesser-known cause, that incorporates a shade of blue: Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

The right to bare arms

Woman asked to cover shoulders or leave Iberville

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

It all started when TaLysa Bryant decided to wear a pink strapless shirt on a hot Louisiana day, a seemingly harmless decision. But little did TaLysa know, her uncovered shoulders would not be allowed to enter the Iberville Dining Hall that day.

When the front cashier at Iberville told Bryant that she couldn't enter unless she covered her shoulders, she was shocked.

"There are girls walking around the cafeteria with shorts on and I have pants, but my shoulders aren't covered and they're telling me I can't come in," said Bryant. "That's what bothered me."

Bryant and her friend Brielle Moore decided to eat at Vic's that day, where she tagged Dr. Henderson in a post on Facebook asking if there was a dress code in the cafeteria and saying "if so, the students are not aware" of one.

"When I came to Vic's and asked if there was any problem showing my shoulders [the employees] were surprised and just as shocked as us," said Bryant.

Several students liked and commented on Bryant's post saying that they had worn similar outfits to the cafeteria, but had never been asked to leave before.

Dr. Henderson replied to Lysa's post, assuring her that she would have "clarity on the issues before the day is over." That day, Dr. Chris Maggio, Vice President of student experience, and Sodexo General Manager Steve Kauf both apologized to Bryant and told her that they would work with SGA or SAB to work on a new policy for the cafeteria.

Kauf told Bryant that the cashier was enforcing a "policy" the cafeteria had come up with a few years ago.

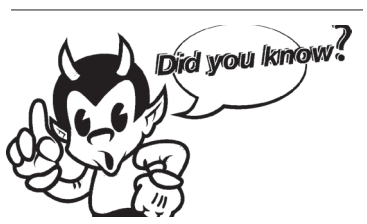


This is the outfit TaLysa Bryant was wearing when Iberville Dining Hall would not serve her unless she covered up. *Submitted Photo*

"The cashier didn't even mention the policy. If you're going to have a rule, everybody should know about it" TaLysa Bryant

SGA updates

- Speaker lined up for Halloween.
- Renovations for Kyser are being planned. This will be a long project that will occur over multiple terms, but SGA is excited.
- Scantrons and Blue Books provided by SGA will now be made available in the library.
- A committee outside of SGA will now decide how to spend concert fees SAB has. This includes choosing which acts will play. In contrast to an exclusively SGA committee, this group will be more diverse. SAB is allowed to reject the committee's decisions.
- Speaker Smiley Poswolsky will come to NSU to talk with students about career affairs. This involves resumes, career options, etc.



Kimberly Mosier
Copy Editor

Northwestern students and Natchitoches residents joined the rest of the world this past Sunday when they witnessed an astronomical event that hasn't occurred since 1982: a super blood moon.

NASA astronomers described this type of moon as a rare combination of a super moon, harvest moon, tetrad and lunar eclipse. The moon held a reddish hue because of its position behind the earth. During a lunar eclipse, the Earth is positioned between the sun and the moon. The rays from the sun become filtered through the Earth's atmosphere, scattering the green and violet lights, and leaving mainly the red-colored light reflecting against the moon's surface.

Another lunar eclipse won't coincide with a super moon until 2033, but the next lunar eclipse should be visible over the United States in 2018.



Students intrude on faculty and staff parking in front of Kyser Hall. *Photo by Tyra Morrison*

Less faculty parking means tickets for students

An-gel Samuel
Contributing Writer

The barrier arm gate, located in the faculty and staff parking lot in between Kyser Hall and the student union, is broken and students are taking advantage of it. Doing this leaves the teachers with limited parking spaces.

The gate closest to the student union did not respond to the faculties gate keys, so it was left up for easier access. Now everyone has access to enter the parking lot at any time.

Students are not allowed to park in this area before 3 p.m. because it is designated for the campus' faculty and staff. When students park in this area before the designated time, it leaves professors and other staff members searching for others places to park.

Dr. Marcus Jones, vice president of university affairs, thinks the reasoning behind the faulty access gate was a power surge. This particular arm gate is one of three that aren't functioning. In addition to this one, the arm gate by the ROTC building and one behind the student union are not working as well.

Jones said he contacted the repair company from Texas to come and fix this problem by the end of the week.

Stephanie Masson, English instructor in Kyser Hall, said this is an inconvenience for her when she is trying to make it to class on time. She uses this parking lot on a daily base because it is accessible to her classroom, but has been unable to do so for the past few weeks due to the lack of spaces.

Now Masson has to arrive to campus earlier than usual.

"I know it is not a popular opinion, but we all need a place to park," Masson said. "The faculty and staff lots are not for student parking."

Jones said he hopes students will respect and be courteous to the staff by not parking in these areas before the designated times. But he says he will take each issue case-by-case. If problems continue to occur, the campus police will start issuing tickets to the students.

"Lots are designated for a reason," Jones said. "A lot of time and thought has gone into it."

GreenCorner in Iberville offers healthier choices

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Things are changing," Iberville Dining Manager Vance Howe said. "There is a drive to eat healthier."

Iberville's GreenCorner was created to satisfy the student body's craving for healthier food. With vegetarianism and veganism trending within this generation, Northwestern's main food provider Sodexo has not offered many animal-friendly choices—until now, that is.

The idea sprung when Sodexo began a program called "Mindful" that focuses on healthy and nutritious foods. However, Howe said GreenCorner really kicked off after a meeting with Dustin Chadwick and Brian Gallagher, two of the strength and conditioning coaches in the athletic department.

While this new section provides non-meat alternatives, its original purpose was to keep the football players on a more "mindful" diet. Athletes are not the only students who desire to live a healthier lifestyle though.

Vegetarians, vegans, lactose intolerant individuals and those who are gluten-free have become a large part of the NSU community.

"We are trying to please everyone," Howe said. "It's an exciting process for us."

Howe explained that the section is self-serve and the employees are not always familiar with the provided options.

"It's a learning process," Howe said. "There is a menu in Iberville and on Facebook for students to know what is being served."

Howe thinks a station with recipes could potentially be provided so students can see the individual ingredients. "Knowledge is power; the more knowledge students have, the better their experience will be," he said.

Through feedback, Howe is able to see which items are more popular than others and try new recipes. "I wouldn't be surprised if in the future, the entire grilling section was composed of vegetarian options," Howe said.

GreenCorner is still in the developmental stages and changes are continuously implemented.

"Anything is possible with the GreenCorner," Howe said. He encourages students to stop by and make suggestions for improvement. "I have an open door policy," He said. "I love hearing feedback."

Student's right to bare arms

Continued from Front

"[The cashier] didn't even mention the policy," said Bryant. "If you're going to have a rule, everybody should know about it."

The "policy" that Kauf mentioned was never an official written policy. In response to the sagging pants trend from four or five years ago and employees receiving complaints from students regarding the appearance of other students in the dining hall, Kauf said the employees are the ones who have been making the "judgment call."

I told [Lysa] that it all depends on who's up there at the register," said Kauf. "There really isn't a policy now. It's really more subjective like 'Geez, do you really want to be wearing that in here with all of these guys looking?'"

The "policy" Kauf initially told Lysa about is a section from the code of conduct in the Student Handbook.

"If you read that in the student handbook, it talks about decency and that kind of stuff," said Kauf. "It's very vague…We posted it in there when we were going through the saggy pants things and that's what we related it on."

Kauf confirmed that the code of conduct section he was referring to was the one below on pages 56 and 57 of the Student Handbook:

"Accompanying these rights are certain responsibilities. A student must abide by federal, state and local laws.

"A student is obliged to respect the rights of others. A student shall comply with valid institutional regulations, contribute to the order of the University's academic and administrative processes and uphold standards of decency and honor in all conduct. Only when individuals are responsible can their rights be assured. Freedom must be exercised responsibly in the context of recognized interest of others and the institution."

Although saggy pants may not "uphold standards of decency" in the general sense, Dean of Students Francis Conine confirmed that there are regulations that say you have to follow the law, but "nothing that specifically addresses clothes" in the student handbook.

"I ran into this issue my freshman year and stopped going to the caf because of it," commented senior Ebony Johnson on the Facebook post. "Someone made up some dress code out of nowhere and I was constantly harassed about what I was wearing just to sit down and eat."

The cashier, an employee of Iberville for more than 10 years, was acting from a "motherly background" according to Kauf. "She wasn't doing it to be mean," said Kauf. "To her, it was very revealing."

Until SGA or SAB discusses the issue, Sodexo will be sticking to the no shirt, no shoes, no service policy. "We're not going to be the clothes police anymore," said Kauf.

Protection with a questionable message

Continued from front

However, when cross analyzing the statistics from the NIH and the flyer, not every fact matches up. The flyer reads, "If you use a condom every time, you still have a 15 percent chance of getting HIV."

This is factual, but the NIH words this stat as an "85 percent reduction."

Although the flyer states that even with protection, there is a 100 percent chance of contracting HPV, the NIH report states: "There was no evidence that condom use reduced the risk of HPV infection, but study results did suggest that condom use might afford some reduction in risk of HPV-associated diseases, including genital warts in men and cervical neoplasia in women."

The language on the flyer differs highly from the language of the NIH's report. Some statistics stated on the flyer are inconclusive according to the NIH. After the "facts" about STIs are listed on the flyer, one final fact is delivered: "Abstinence protects you 100% of the time." This fact is completely accurate. "Abstinence is a word we are scared of now," Campbell said. "I don't know why." Campbell thinks that, through the flyer, she is "letting students know what the risks are."

Senior Leanny Muñoz believes that the language on the flyer invokes scare tactics and must be changed for accuracy.

"The underhanded abstinence-only approach is not helpful in educating the majority of students on this campus who have never had a comprehensive sex education," Muñoz said.

Senior Krista Broussard found the statistics and all around message on the flyer "ridiculous," and said: "If you want to teach abstinence go to a catechism school, not a college campus."

"I would want to know what students want to change," Campbell said when asked about the opposing views students may have to the flier. "What's wrong with it?"

Campbell reiterated that she is ready to get feedback on what students are uncomfortable about.

"I don't think the intent is being considered," she said. "We don't know until we ask."



The statistics on the condoms seem questionable based on word choice and phrasing. *Photo by Alec Horton*



Northwestern State University Creative and Perfoming Arts faculty join together to perform for students in annual faculty showcase. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Music with heart: CAPA faculty showcase talent

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

The Faculty Recital, Tuesday Sept. 22 in Magale Recital Hall, allowed the faculty an opportunity to perform. The Faculty Recital is an annual Northwestern tradition of over 25 years and is paired with an exhibit in Hanchey Art Gallery.

The performances showcased the huge variety of talent that is not so hidden within our music program. The respect for the performers was evident in the silence during each performance until the moment the performers took their bows, then the auditorium roared with applause.

The recital began at 7:30 p.m. with the magical playing of the king of intruments, Rex, the organ. Mary DeVille plays the organ while Tony Smith narrates the amusing opening act. An entertaining piece that is highly amusing but allows the audience to appreciate and respect the instrument.

Smith's words personify the instrument. Carefully controlled sounds are pushed from the organ pipes. "Open they shout, closed they mutter." When they open fully with low tones the reverberations are felt throughout the recital halls.

The program continues with "Spiegel in Spiegel" performed by Paul Christopher on the cello and accompanied by Greg Handle on piano. The movement of the bow across the string changes the atmosphere of the room. A somber sorrow fills the space.

Following, Terrie Sanders performed "The Silver Aria from the Ballad of Baby Doe and accompanied by Greg Handle on piano. Sanders showcases her soprano voice while singing of how she prefers silver to gold.

After, Malena McLaren and David Steele perform "Immer Kleiner" on the clarinet with the accompaniment of Greg Handel on the piano.

McLaren and Steele feature their talent on the clarinet with sass and personality. As the song progresses, the two faculty members lose pieces of their clarinet as they take them off and place them at the edge of the stage. Near the end, Handel joins in on the amusement and opens the piano to the grandest position so that it may produce the loudest sounds.

Paul Forsyth continued the program with a lively saxophone piece titled, "Cadenza," an excerpt from Concerto. Next, Michael Rorex displayed his tenor voice and sang "Lamento di Federico" from L'Arlesiana. Leah Forsyth closed the first half of the recital with "Morceau de Salon" on the oboe.

After intermission, Oliver Molina played a rousing percussion piece entitled "North-South".

The piece appropriately named, transitioned half-way through to a more up tempo pace. Francis Young continued with "Moment Musical No. 4" on the piano. Michelle Lange charmed the audience with her soprano voice as she sang "Meine Lippen sie küssen so heiss" from Giuditta. Lange was accompanied by Rorex on the piano.

In continuation of musical excellence, Douglas Bakenhus and Dennette McDermott played Beethoven's "Duo, WoO 27." The duet chose to play the piece on traditional intruments to imitate how the song would've sounded originally. McDermott played the traverso and Bakenhus the baroque bassoon.

Stefan Gorden then enchanted the audience with his baritone voice as he sang "Soliloquy" from Carousel, accompanied by Rorex on the piano.

The impressionate final performance included six vocal professors, accompanied by Handel on the piano, singing "Libiamo ne' lieti calici" from La Traviata. The purpose for the faculty recital is to showcase their talent in a way that models how hard work and dedication to your instrument will allow you to achieve your musical goals. Northwestern's School of Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) consists of four areas: Music; Art; Theater/Dance; and New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts.

All four disciplines confer undergraduate degrees, and Music and the Fine and Graphic Arts also offer graduate degrees.

CAPA is designated as an "Area of Excellence" by the University of Louisiana Board of Trustees. The program maintains excellence through their staff, faculty and students.

Fifty years of music: Orchestra celebrates Symphony society

Rhiannon Dean
Contributing Writer

On Sept. 27, the Natchitoches – Northwestern Symphony Orchestra performed in Magale Recital Hall for their fifth year.

April of this year marked 150 years since the Civil War. This influenced Dr. Douglas Bakenhus, musical director and conductor at NSU since 2004, to put on a Patriotic Concert. This is the first of its kind and included many Civil War pieces.

The first song played was the Star Spangled Banner. Before each song, Dr. Bakenhus included a small introduction and historical background on the piece.

The songs played were the following "National Emblem," a march that was written in 1902; "American Salute," written in 1943 by a child prodigy with the catchy tune of "when Johnny come marching home"; "Tara," a short tone poem based on themes from "Gone with the Wind"; John Henry, written in 1940 for a radio broadcast and performed for children; "The Great Locomotive Chase," an actual chase that lasted 108 miles; "Ashokan Farewell," written in 1982 as a farewell waltz; "American Civil War Fantasy," containing fragments of many well-known songs and originally written for a halftime show at University of Michigan; and "Celebration Overture," composed by Dr. Bakenhus's colleague Richard Rose.

There was a special presentation that included a narration of "A New Birth of Freedom" from Connor Loar, a sophomore here at NSU.



NSU orchestra play complilation of patriotic and southern classics to commemorate the 150th anneversary of the civil war. *Photo by Emilee Self*

The NSU Men's Chorus helped close out the concert with "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "God Bless America." Michael Rorex is the associate professor of voice and director of NSU Men's Chorus.

The crowd was packed and applauded often. There was an intermission midway that allowed the audience to get refreshments that were laid out on a table downstairs.

The Natchitoches – Northwestern Symphony Society was founded in 1966 with a purpose to promote musical education in the Natchitoches region and enhance music appreciation in children.

The society was a mix of music, culture and social events such as fundraisers.

Not only did the Symphony Society put on concerts, but they performed in plays as well. In the beginning, there was only three evening concerts a year; there will be seven concerts for this 2015-2016 season including an April production of "Oklahoma."

There are scholarship opportunities through the Symphony Society. Currently, they are providing 30 scholarships to NSU students.

The society's membership has increased over the years, which has helped the scholarship program and cultural enhancement in Natchitoches. Of course, one has to look back to Joseph B. Carlucci who was the first symphony conductor from 1966-1969.

It was his idea to begin a civic symphony society, which included a partnership between the college and the community.

All games considered: Traverse fanstasy worlds and lore in 'The Witcher: The Wild Hunt'

Justin Vance
A&E Editor

With so many great games on the horizon for the new generation of gaming, it is important to make sure amazing games that were released already aren't overshadowed. One game that comes to mind is "The Witcher 3" that was released in mid May of this year.

As the name implies "The Witcher 3" is the third and final installment of an action-adventure franchise based off a Polish fantasy novel of the same name. In the Witcher games the player becomes Gerlat of Revia, a member of mutated monster hunters known as "witchers." These witchers are contracted by anyone with enough coin to kill monsters and do so with cold and calculating efficiency. The third installment shows Geralt at the final chapter of his story where he must face one of his greatest challenges, The Wild Hunt.

As the third game in the trilogy it makes sense that most gamers would be nervous about entering a world that they do not understand, and normally that would be true. The Witcher franchise in particular is rich with Polish lore, raging wars between fantasy nations and relationships that span the three games. It also does a great job of creating a nurturing environment for anyone who has not played the other games. Having only experienced the second game, "The Witcher 2: Assassin of Kings," I was happy to see some of my favorite characters return as well as be introduced to characters from the first game.

Any anxiety about being prepared for this game is washed away within the first few minutes of game play. Some of the tutorial is used to introduce basic game mechanics and can be a little boring, but as soon as you are let loose into the world the game begins to shine.

"The Witcher 3" boasts an impressive 200+ hours worth of content, but most of this consists of side missions where you are tasked with tracking and hunting various monsters that terrorize the many villages you come across. If side quests aren't your thing, you can stick to the story missions that will advance the plot. You can also take a break from hunting beasties to play Gwent, a card game invented for the game. Be warned, Gwent seems like a simple card game but is horribly addictive.

The Witcher series has always been known as a solid franchise rooted deeply in the Polish developer's folklore. The integration of their own culture adds the extra "touch" that lets every player feel the love and devotion that went into this project. It also forces the player to explore the lore using the "bestiary" that catalogs every monster that you encounter on the road. Before beginning any hunt it pays to read up on your target, trust me. There is nothing worse than hunting a monster that becomes much stronger at night... at night.

Even the few glitches that are inevitable in a game of this scope are charming. I can't help but chuckle whenever Geralt's trusty horse, Roach, appears and begins to phase into villagers or gets stuck halfway up a hill.

To add the icing on top of the delectable morsel that is the Witcher 3, the soundtrack is amazing. The tones are warm and somber as you and Roach canter along the countryside, when suddenly a gang of bandits appear and immediately the vocals blast as Geralt engages in the only profession he has ever known, combat.

I could go on and on about what makes this game amazing, but I don't believe in overkill. This is not a new game, but greatness is timeless and this game is great. If you have already bought this game I would recommend picking it up again and just doing a side mission or two. If you have not played this game yet, treat yourself and at least try the demo.

If you can't guess, I love this game and have no doubt that it deserves my rating of a 10/10. With the destiny of the gaming industry in the balance right now with big developers focusing more on the development of DLC rather than making the core game great and others moving to the more profitable mobile games, it is a breath of fresh air to see a small developer contend with the big boys and show them that quality is all the consumer wants. As I attempt to dismount this rather high soapbox, I again implore you to try this game.

LGBT students invited to Dallas conference

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

Calling all lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgenders, queers, asexuals and questioning. On Oct. 9-11, OUT for Work will host a national career conference at the University of Texas in Dallas.

This year will be the 11th Annual National LGBTQ & Ally College Student Career Conference.

The OFW annually aids LGBTQ+ students throughout their educational experiences. They offer services to assist students with career plans and job opportunities for LGBTA undergraduate students.

The conference will feature breakout sessions, workshops and key note speeches presented by various companies, organizations and individuals who support LGBTQA workplace inclusion. The National LGBTQ & Ally College Student Career Conference gives undergraduate and graduate students an opportunity to network and explore job opportunities with various industries and organizations.

LGBTQA employees and representatives will be present and available to aid in professional ways to discuss being out and open in various workplaces, on resumes, interviews and social media.

At the conclusion of the conference, the PRIDE Career Fair will accommodate more than 30 companies from a variety of industries promoting both their career and internship opportunities.

For more information about the conference, students can look up information on the organization's website: outforwork.org.



Purple, white and teal: NSU supports ovarian cancer awareness

Continued from front

On Tuesday, Sept. 22, NSU turned teal to raise awareness for ovarian cancer. Students showed support by donning teal clothing and had the chance to get their fingernails painted teal at the student union that afternoon.

Dr. Jim Henderson joined in the efforts by keeping the columns lit teal as a subtle on-campus reminder of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

"Ovarian cancer is diagnosed in 22,000 women every year. Our greatest defense against the disease is awareness," Henderson said.

"We hope Teal on Tuesday will remind the women of the NSU community to know the risk factors and warning signs, research their family medical history, and ask the right questions of their physicians."

Termed "the silent killer," ovarian cancer cannot be tested for by average means and a woman's annual pap smear does not detect the disease. Because the symptoms for ovarian cancer could be considered common ailments — bloating, weight gain, abdominal pain, feeling full quickly — it is labeled the deadliest of the five major gynecologic cancers.

Ovarian cancer claims 14,000 lives per year out of the 22,000 diagnosed.

According to the National Cancer Institute, only 44 percent of women survive past five years after diagnosis.

However, if an early diagnosis occurs, cases of ovarian cancer can be treated.

"Natchitoches has a campaign and events during the month of September and the coalition is made up of survivors of the cancer," Turn Natchitoches Teal Coalition co-organizer Stephanie Dyjack said.

"We are here to help raise awareness and to let it be known that awareness is the only key play we have in the line of defense against ovarian cancer. The more ladies that know, the better chance we have in fighting the statistics."



Turn Teal Natchitoches organizers Stephanie Dyjack and Leah Lentz presented NSU President Dr. Jim Henderson with a teal tie to wear the week of Sept. 21-25 to spread ovarian cancer awareness as Turn Teal hosted several activities on campus for the Demon family. *Submitted by Leah Jackson*



Cooking with Vic

Damian Glover
PR/Online Editor

Ingredients

-1 package of boneless, skinless chicken breast
-2 mix sausage links
-1 lb. of dried red beans
-1 package of frozen seasonal
-4 eggs
-2 cups all-purpose flour
-1 tablespoon baking powder
-¼ teaspoon salt
-Garlic powder
-1/3 cup of water
-Pepper
-Cayenne

My go-to meal has to be my family's famous fried chicken with a side of red beans and rice. Some may say it's a plate made of a heart attack with sides of diabetes and high cholesterol, but, actually, it isn't.

It just has something about it that comforts you, allowing you to savor all the goodness that it holds and forget the horrible day that you've had.

Place one cup of red beans in a bowl with water to soak overnight or for at least three hours. Place six cups of water into your crock pot and slice your sausage. Place the red beans and chopped sausage into the crock pot. Then, season to taste with salt, pepper, garlic powder and cayenne. Place on low for eight hours.

For the chicken, start by pre-heating a fryer or cast iron skillet that will be used for cooking. Mix eggs, water and seasoning mix into a bowl. Stir the flour and baking powder in another bowl. Season chicken to taste and, then, drench in the wet mixture first.

After the chicken is drenched thoroughly, coat each piece in the flour and baking powder mixture. Repeat this process of dipping and coating twice, then place the dredged chicken separate from each other on a flat plate. Once the oil gets hot, place chicken evenly in pot or fryer for five minutes, then flip to other side for another five minutes. Take the chicken pieces out once they are golden brown, drain excess oil and let them cool on paper towels until ready to serve.



Carrigen Cain embraces the "boho" look on the Kyser Brickway between classes. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Demon Style

Outfit of the issue featuring Carrigen Cain

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

Criminal justice major Carrigen Cain looked majestic as she sashayed past Kyser Hall. Her skirt had such a rad bohemian vibe and she looked lovely in green.

The inspiration behind the outfit:
"I woke up, this was in my closet! I was going for comfort!"

College fashion pet peeves:
"Don't wear pajamas to class. Like, I understand sweatpants — I wear sweatpants and yoga pants and all that good stuff — but, try a little. At least most of the time! But, everyone has bad days."

Style advice:
"Be yourself! Don't be afraid to try new things. This dress is loud, but I like it. I think it fits me."

Vibe for the day:
"I think it's very happy! Very relaxed and calm. I had a test today, so I wanted to be calm."

Open Letter from SGA President

Matthew Whitaker
Student Government Association President

I'm Matthew Whitaker, and I'm a senior psychology major from Winnfield, La. I am the current student body president, and my job is to be the constant voice for the students of NSU. I am also the liaison between campus faculty/staff and the students. I take a lot of pride in my position, and I enjoy giving back to the university that has given me so much.

Along with having frequent meetings with administration, I also manage my Cabinet, which is the executive board for the Student Government Association. By holding weekly meetings and managing our many departments, I help motivate our senators to produce the best work they possibly can.

Along with managing the President's Cabinet, I have also developed an extensive platform which is catered exclusively for our current student population. We already have passed legislation for a campus speaker that will discuss best risk management practices for our RSOs. We also held our annual "Donuts with the Dean" event, which has been well received by the campus.

Students can also look for "Meet your Senator Day," which is fastly approaching, along with great giveaways that we are excited to introduce.

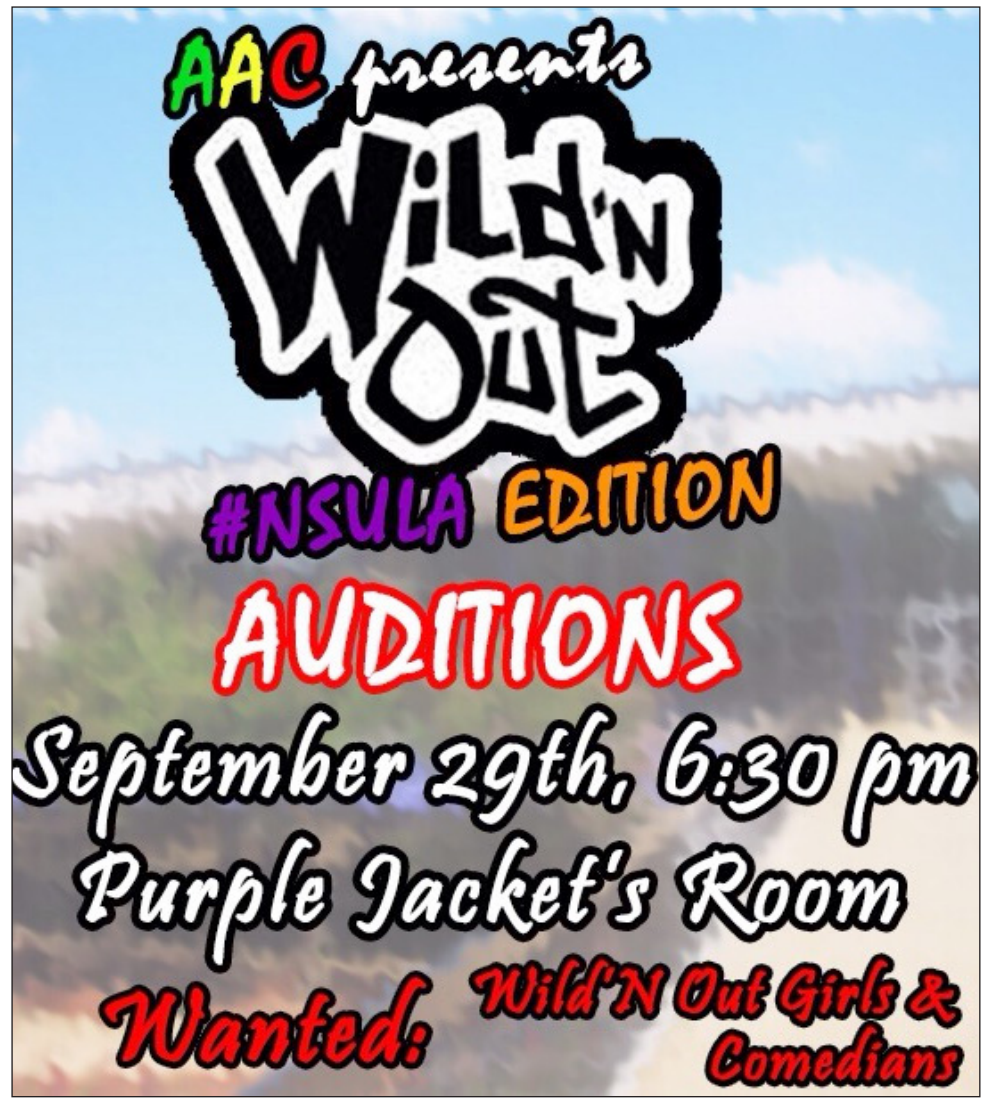
On top of the great programming that we have on our calendar, we have our awesome financial programs. These include ORF, which allows RSOs to travel to the many conferences and programming events that will benefit them down the road, and our student loan program that is created to help out students needing a little extra cash.

As you can see, we are quite busy down in the SGA office, but my hope is that every student on our campus is as satisfied as possible. My office is located on the bottom floor of the student union, Room 102. I have an open door policy and would love to hear from our students regarding any concerns or questions that I may assist with.

Thank you all for allowing me to serve such a great university, and Fork 'em, Demons!



Matthew Whitaker was elected in spring of 2015 for his position as the SGA President and recently voted to be Mr. NSU. *Submitted by Matthew Whitaker*



2015 Homecoming Honor Court

Queen & Miss NSU:
Brittany McConathy

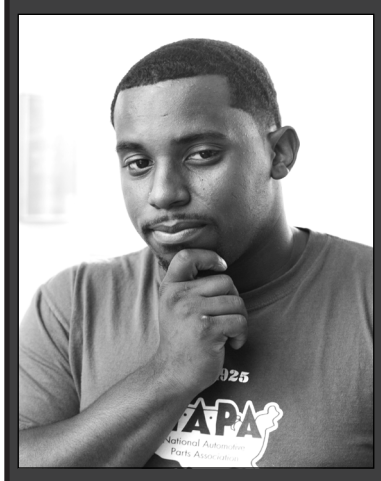
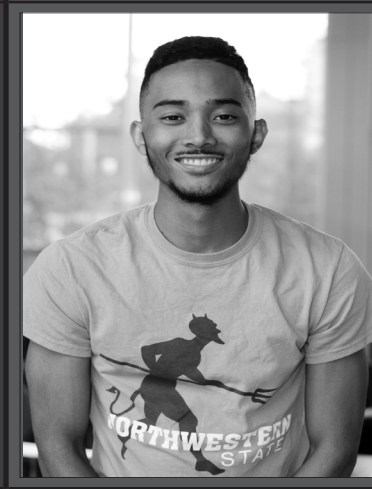
Brooke Anderson
Sha'Destiny Blackshire
ShaRhonda Collins
Myranda DeGraw
Sarah Gandy
Chantasia Grasty
Angel Greer
Constance Johnson
Emilie King
Regan Wild

King & Mr. NSU:
Matthew Whitaker

Charles Anderson
Anthony Cannata
Brian Cook
Terrell Gorham
Demetri Hill
Chris Juneau
John Pearce
Anthony Pham
Beau Russell
Jamarius Williams

NS'U' Voice

What characteristics do you think the next governor should have?

Jalen Clark: Junior, Business Adm Major	Anthony Cannata: Senior, Business Major	Tracey Davis: Senior, Theatre Major	Joseph Guidry: Senior, IET Major
			
"Someone who is trustworthy and won't only look out for their party affiliation. Someone who cares about the state as a whole and would like to further everyone's education."	"A bigger emphasis on supporting higher education funding."	"Someone who will make a change and an impact to help out future generations."	"Loyalty to the students of Louisiana. I want a governor who will aim to stop different cutting programs from educational institutions."

Reasons to go vegan: Weight Loss

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Unlike a classified "vegetarian," a "vegan" is a person who does not eat or use animal products. Because of this regime, vegans, according to an article on PETA's website, are up to 20 pounds lighter than the average meat and dairy eater.

Unlike many "fad diets," veganism is a lifestyle. This means you shouldn't feel tired or lose unhealthy amounts of weight in a short amount of time. In fact, you'll feel more energized than ever before. Switching to veganism will help you lose weight—keep it off, and you're skin will even clear up.

How is this possible? One word: Fiber. A plant-based diet involves consuming mostly fruits and vegetables which are high in fiber and low in calories. A high fiber diet leads to a clean and clear digestive track and a detoxification of your body. Not so coincidentally, animal products—meat, cheese, milk, eggs—contain zero fiber, which is stated on NutritionMD's website.

So, instead of running an extra mile when your pants get too tight, consider switching your hamburger for a healthy serving of fruits and veggies. Happy eating!

Offensive Shoulders

Jade Williams
Contributing Writer

A young woman was turned away from the school cafeteria because her shoulders were exposed. Being that I only received half of the story, an occurrence like this does not surprise me. In my opinion, we need to ask ourselves as a society where exactly the line is between owning your sexuality and letting others exploit it?

On one hand, individuals are allowed the freedom to express themselves, but on the other hand individuals are judged for their type of expression. A Northwestern cafeteria staff member said there is no dress code policy inside the cafeteria, and I also searched the student handbook and found no rule against it.

Most dress code policies have strict rules towards how much skin a woman can expose. Not saying that I enjoy private parts everywhere, but why does that one extra inch or that "lustrous" collar bone offend anyone?

The problem comes from women being overly sexualized in the first place. Whether it be in movies, magazines or television, it is a little dispiriting that you cannot advertise a hamburger without flashing some cleavage more than the burger itself.

Over sexualizing women has also led to unrealistic beauty standards and limitations to modesty. While men have their ideas on what makes them "masculine," they seem to have no trouble wearing what they please and receiving no negative commentary. If it is hot outside, a woman is called suggestive and unflattering names for wearing really short shorts. If she happens to voice her opinion then she is called either bossy or another derogatory name.

Basically, women can't win for losing. Women will be judged no matter what they wear. So I think girls should just wear what makes them feel comfortable or happy.

look us up

@The CurrentSauce

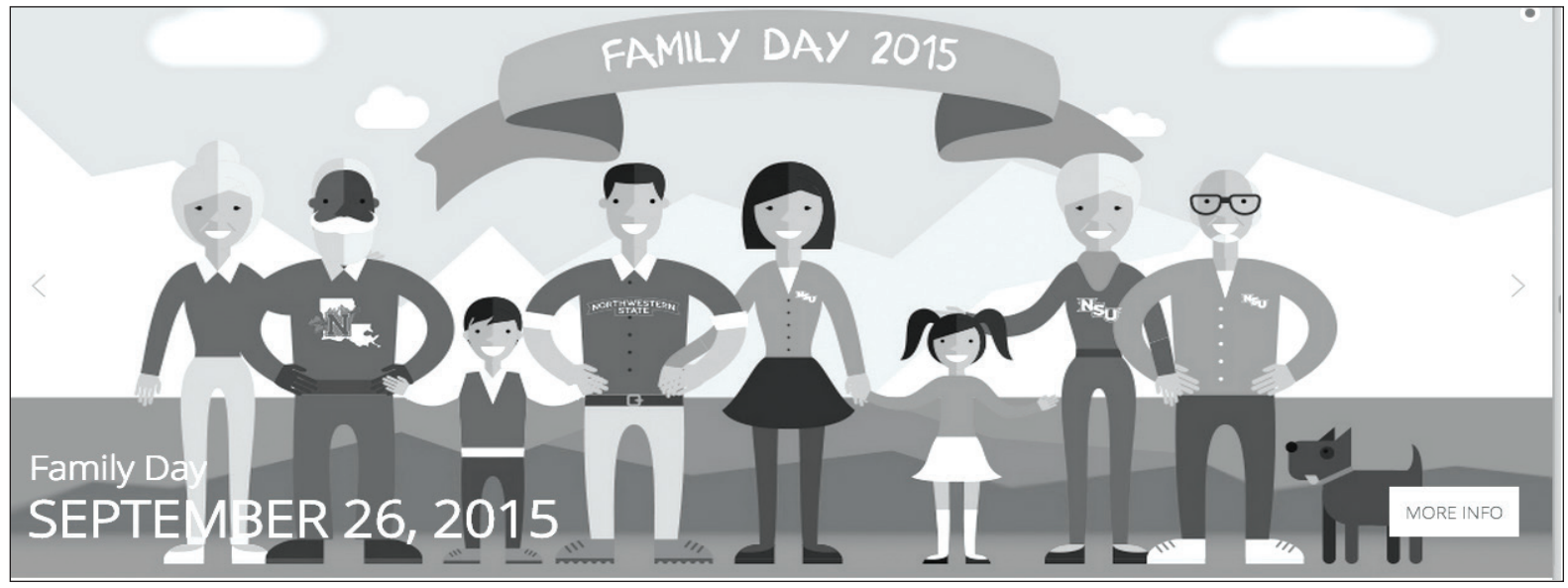
TheCurrentSauce

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The Current Sauce

Pay attention white people: Student addresses her controversial concerns post about campus ad

Meg Denny
Staff writer



Graphic used to advertise Family Day that caused controversy on student concerns page. *Graphic by NSU First Year Experience*

On Sept. 28 at 12:08 p.m., I posted a picture of a racially awkward graphic for Family Day on the student concerns Facebook page. The photo consisted of a family, or possibly multiple families, holding hands. All but one of these characters were presumably white, or could be mistaken for Caucasian.

I knew that the graphic was racially disproportionate to NSU's actual population. I thought the concerned students would realize this, agree and help fix the problem.

What I did not expect were those typical, angry Facebook comments and the accusations that my post was just an "attack on Family Day" or the ignorance to the racial diversity of NSU and the harmful side effects whitewashing can create.

Because the post grew out of hand and most arguments were full of logical fallacies, I want to explain my reasoning for posting.

The graphic is an insult to the diversity at NSU. According to the newest university statistics, 5,450 students are white, while 3,719 are not. If my math is correct, that means realistically four or five of the eight people pictured in family day would be white. Now, that means only four or three pictured should be of a different ethnicity.

This may suggest that NSU still has progress to be made in the diversity of this campus, but we are doing better than other universities in Louisiana. The point is, three or four non-white characters should be pictured and are not.

Let's talk about micro-aggressions. When LGBTQ+ Social Worker Capi Landreneau came to NSU, she compared micro-aggressions to cuts. Sure, when one obtains a few cuts here and there no problems or discomforts really arise. However, when the cuts are constant, there can be an extreme health risk.

This is the same way minorities deal with racism and heterosexism. A few subtle stereotyped slurs throughout the day or a few exclusive actions may not cause a big problem in one's mental or emotional state.

However, at a time where racial tension is on the rise and Donald Trump is a potential presidential candidate, every micro-aggression matters. Everyone hurts. This is true especially at the university-wide level, where representation matters if NSU is actually "one big family."

I am not attacking family day nor am I being "too sensitive." This micro-aggression effect is real. Stereotype threat is a real problem. Do we want to discourage the minorities at our school? Of course not. Do we want NSU to seem like a non-inclusive, privileged family to outsiders? No. We can do better and we have done better than this.

I brought this to the attention of the NSU community in order to help and acknowledge that NSU is not perfect. Let me be clear: this is not a post I particularly regret.

I started a dialogue and hopefully caused a little critical thought on a sensitive subject. What I really want to see, however, are other students taking action. I'm a privileged white woman. I do not want to be the voice for others when others can use their own voices.

I am asking students to come out and fight for themselves, to start a conversation when something makes them uncomfortable. Let's help NSU progress into an active, inclusive, affirming atmosphere.

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Yes, pay attention white people

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

Northwestern State has been a predominantly white college for literally forever. It wasn't that long ago when schools in the South integrated. Less than 60 years ago, I wouldn't even be allowed to come here. Minorities were aware of these statistics when they submitted their application for this institution.

The Family Day picture having mostly whites and only one or two minority groups represented did not come as a surprise. Again, as a predominantly white college, it was expected. It seems as though the only ones whom have their panties in a bunch are already represented well in the picture. Basically, the only people who care about the picture not being "fair" or not "representing NSU well" are white. Don't get me wrong, there could have been more ethnicities in the picture, but it wasn't that big of a deal. I didn't even notice the picture until it was posted it on the Student Concerns page and people went crazy.

Stand by us when we need you to stand by us.

If I wanted to see more people like me, then I would have went to a Historical Black College or University (HBCU).

If you want to stand up for minorities, blacks in particular, stand BY us when WE NEED you to stand by us. Listen to what we say instead of defending yourselves against what we say. Understand that when we say #BlackLivesMatter, that we mean that black lives matter too. *Too, meaning* also. Not that we devalue some else's life, that we are just as important as everyone else. Realize that racism will not go away if we stop talking about it but will only get better when we talk about it. Understand that even though I will soon be college educated, that when I was created I already had two strikes against me. One being two X chromosomes and the other was the melanin engraved into my DNA.

Honestly, there are more important things that need our attention than there being only one black and one Hispanic person in a picture.

NSU Crew rows away to Regatta

Each member had to row 24,000 meters before the end of the event

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

NSU Crew put on another successful Erg-a-thon this past weekend, as they took over the Watson P. Memorial Library parking lot with their Erg machines.

This year, each member had to sit on the erg and row 24,000 meters each, combining for a team total of 1,160,337.02 meters (or 721 miles). That covers the total distance between Natchitoches and Oak Ridge, Tenn., which is where their spring Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association Championship Regatta will be held.

"It's the same format every year," member Kayla Ashford said. "We take the miles, convert them into meters and divide them throughout the team so that each member would be rowing the same amount."

It was no race for Crew, as they started the Erg-a-thon at 5:45 a.m. and didn't leave until every single member covered their entire distance. First year member David Johnson was the first to finish. It took him approximately one hour and forty-five minutes, compared to the two and a half hours it would usually take.

"It started hurting about half way throughout," novice Johnson said. "But I just kept pushing and stayed with a steady pace."

Along with food, fun and music, Crew was equipped with a waterslide this year for members to slide on to beat the heat… or to relax their butts once the numbness started to kick in from sitting on the machine for so long.

On Sept. 19, NSU Crew traveled to Little Rock, Ark., to race in the Six Bridge Regatta as they came home with four gold medals, one silver medal and the Governor's cup (traveling trophy).

"Crew is amazing and I encourage everyone to come and join," Savannah Harrison said. "It's fun and you get a chance to build strong bonds with people."

Crew has an informational at the beginning of every semester, where there's only $100 dues per person, which can be donated. You don't have to be a specific shape or size to join and it only takes two weeks of training to learn boat safety and operations. NSU Crew is one of three in state rowing teams; LSU and Tulane University are the only other schools with a rowing team.

On Oct. 10, Crew will travel to Chattanooga, Tenn., to compete in the Chattanooga Head Race. It will be their second meet of the season.



Crew members Derek Donald alongside Holly Smith racked up mileage on the Erg machine during their event in Watson P. Memorial Library parking lot.





(Left) Meet NSU Crew sign. (Right) Crew members Devan Morgan and J.J. Battles slid down their inflatable slide, which was placed behind the library in the grassy area for members.



Pictured above is NSU Crew's coxed four boat showing students what they will race in when they go to the championship. *Photos submitted by Derek Donald*

Lady Demons winless in Southland Conference

Ben Wellman
Sports Writer

Two games, two Southland opponents and two losses is how the Lady Demons soccer team weekend went.

The Lady Demons played two physical losses to Southland opponents, 3-1 to Lamar and 2-1 to McNeese in an overtime match. The losses drop their overall season record to 3-6-2 and their Southland record to 0-2-1.

"It was tough. We played well enough to win both games this weekend," Head Coach George van Linder said. "I think both opponents and the fans can see that, but at the same time, we have to get results."

The game against Lamar had a bit of an odd start. Early in the first half, the power in the scoreboard went out, and play was halted until the power returned and time was adjusted.

In the 27th minute, the visitors broke the deadlock. Lamar playmaker Mari Olastuen sent a cross into the box that midfielder M.J. Eckart hit first-time. Lady Demon goalkeeper Brooke Bourbonais didn't judge the ball correctly and the ball ended up in the back of the net.

Fifteen minutes later, Lamar was at it again. Following a giveaway near midfield, the Cardinals were on the attack and midfielder Juliana Ocampo was able to run past the defense to get one-on-one with Bourbonais. Ocampo chipped it over Bourbonais right into the back of the net to give the visitors a 2-0 halftime lead.

The Lady Demons went into the second half with a more aggressive mindset, and it paid off 10 minutes in. Midfielder Shelby Balmer broke up a Cardinal attack in midfield and was able to get the ball to playmaker Cassandra Briscoe, who shuffled it to freshmen attacker Jacqueline Manza. Manza took a few shots that deflected off defenders but she was finally able to curl one around the goalkeeper to give the home side hope.

The visitors put the nail in the coffin with a little over 15 minutes remaining in the game. Cardinal attacker Jordan Mulnix latched on to a loose ball in the box, and made a nice play to get the ball into the net past Alex Latham, who dove for the save just a little too early, to give the visitors a 3-1 victory.

Two days later, the Lady Demons welcomed the Cowgirls of McNeese State to Natchitoches hoping to turn their luck around. It would not come to be, as the Cowgirls escaped with a heartbreaking 2-1 overtime victory.

The Cowgirls' first goal came in the ninth minute off their first attack. The defense was slow to close down forward Kayla Goedicke and she crossed the ball into midfielder Bettina Brulhart. The defense still didn't close down Brulhart, and she was able to get the ball past Bourbonais for the lead.

The home side would equalize 10 minutes later as Lady Demon defender Amy Renteria played a through ball into the box towards forward Brittany Caserma. Both Caserma and Cowgirl goalkeeper Lauren Sestak ran towards the ball, and the two collided. Caserma was able to get a touch that rolled the ball in to tie the game. Both players were down injured for a minute after the play, and Sestak was unable to return to the match.

The game was fairly even and physical in the second half, with chances coming from both sides. The best chance of the half for the Cowgirls was a shot that hit the crossbar, while the Lady Demons got their attackers involved frequently, to no avail.

"We knew it was going to be a battle with McNeese, and today was no exception," van Linder said. "We were probably a little fatigued in the midfield ... and I think I needed to use our depth a little more today."

Regulation ended 1-1, so overtime was required to possibly determine a winner. The first period of overtime was fairly even, very similarly to the second half, with both teams creating chances with no results.

Finally, in the second overtime period, the Cowgirls broke the deadlock and Lady Demon hearts. Five minutes into the second overtime period, Cowgirl substitute Sara Ortiz latched on to a Brulhart pass, and her shot from inside the box deflected off a Lady Demon defender and past Alex Latham to give the visitors the golden goal needed for a 2-1 overtime victory.

The Lady Demons will spend fall break on the road, when they travel to Southland foes Abilene Christian, Oct. 2 at 7 p.m., and Incarnate Word, Oct. 4, at 11 a.m. The Lady Demons' next home game will be on Oct. 9, when they welcome Sam Houston for a 7 p.m. match.

Money games, are they worth it?

Reginald Williams
Sports Reporter

Mississippi State 62, Northwestern State 13. Akron 52, Savannah State 9. Oregon 61, Georgia State 28.

We've all seen it before, Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) schools (formally division 1-AA) such as Northwestern State go to play bigger schools such as Mississippi State, who is in the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) (formally division 1-A), and are completely over matched and end up losing by a huge amount of points.

Why is this happening? Why are these embarrassing games even being played? The answer to those questions is really simple: money.

FBS schools pay huge amounts of money to FCS schools to come play them and more times often than not, they end up beating them pretty easily. At some FCS schools, the money gained from these "money games" helps sustain their athletic program. NSU athletic director Greg Burke noted that without the playing of these "money games" we could not thrive or be competitive.



FCS coaches also note that these games in front of thousands of people, against bigger, stronger and faster FBS opponents, gives their teams experience and "helps the team more than hurts it."

"Our players like the challenge of playing against top level talent," said Burke. "The opportunity to play against some of the best in the country is a chance worth the price of possibly losing the game by a big margin."

Are these "money games" as they have been named, worth the price we are paying for it? Against the University of Louisiana Lafayette, the Demons lost 44 – 17 in a valiant effort after a late second-half flurry.

For the MSU and ULL game, NSU was paid a combined total of $575,000, that was disbursed throughout the athletic department.

The reality is, these games help ends meet at low end FBS schools and FCS schools alike, meaning this system won't be going anywhere anytime soon.

Demons football can't catch any breaks

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

The Demons had a heartbreaking loss this past Saturday as the Bears of Central Arkansas handed them a 49-21 beating, giving them their fourth loss of the season. The Demons are now sitting 10th in Southland Conference, 0-4 for the season and 0-2 in conference play.

"We're just not catching any breaks," head coach Jay Thomas said. "It's tough when you have a young defense. You're constantly changing things to hopefully get it right someday."

From the start of the game, the Purple Swarm defense had trouble stopping both the pass and run as the Bears racked up 521 total offensive yards, almost splitting the difference between the air (254) and ground (267). Two Demons ended the game with double-digit tackles, as linebackers Wilbur Myers led the defense with 13 and Jacob Merriman ended with 11.

"It was a struggle for the most part, but we kept fighting throughout the whole game," safety Adam Jones said. "We're going to have to get back in the lab (field room) and start working hard towards our first win."

On the other side of the ball, the Demons excelled with their passing game, as quarterback J.D. Almond took all the snaps besides one, as he had to sit out for one play due to his helmet coming off. Almond went 19 for 33, throwing for 275 yards, two touchdowns and one interception. Running back De'Mard Llorens added a touchdown on the ground as he escaped for 53 yards off nine carries, leading the Demons run game.

"I'm most definitely looking forward to us throwing the ball more after tonight," receiver Bobby Chan-Chan said, who was the second leading receiver with 76 yards and three catches.

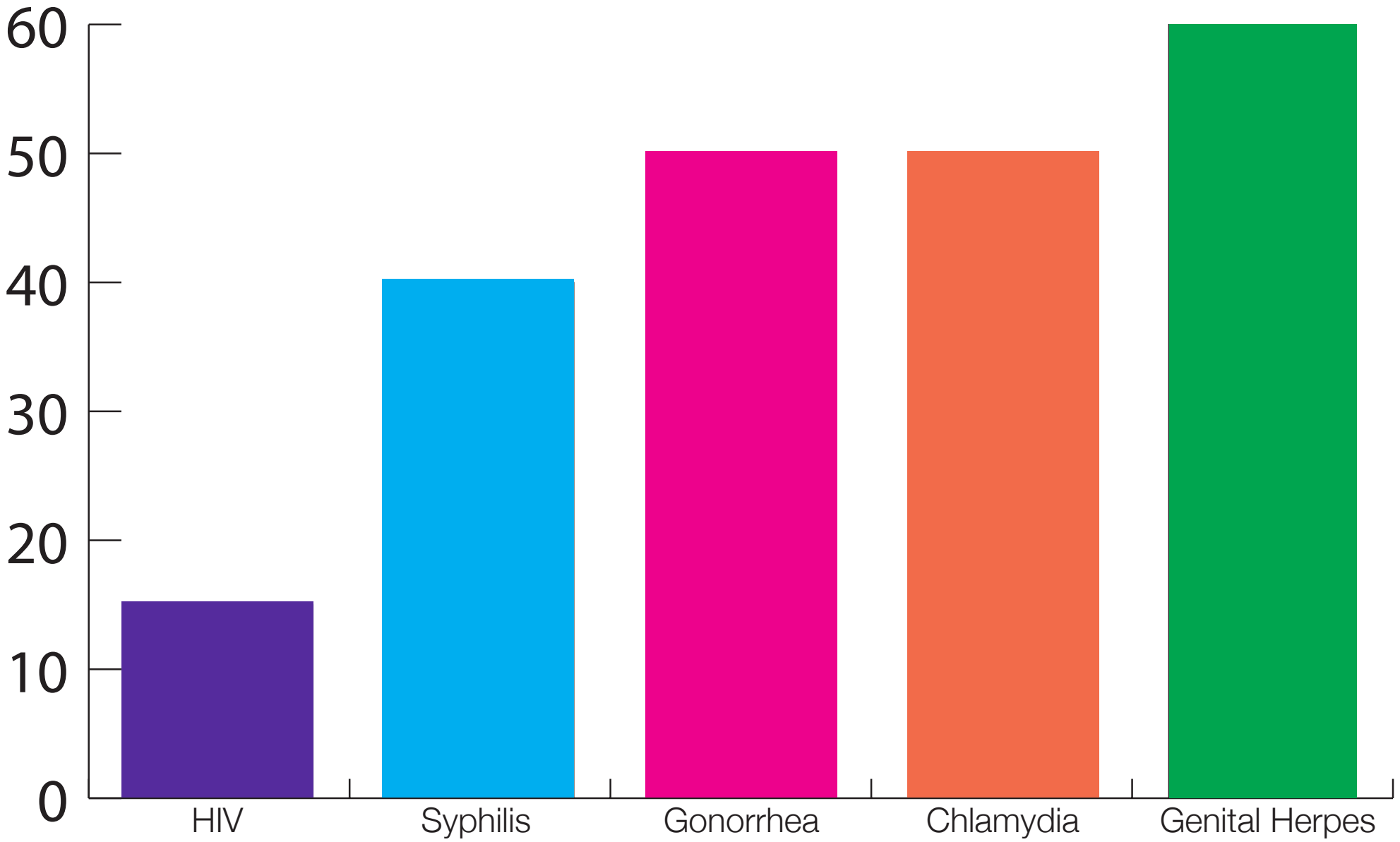
Story continued at currentsaucenews.com

Facts Behind Sexually Transmitted Infections

Undiagnosed STIs in women can cause infertility—approximately 24,000 discover infertility due to STIs annually.

The Center for Disease Control recommends that sexually active people be screened for STIs at least once a year. Some STIs are nonsymptomatic, so they also advise people with multiple partners be tested more frequently.

STI Reduction Rates When Condoms Are Properly Used



Using condoms properly during sex can lead to reduced chances of contracting an STI. The percentages in the graph were retrieved from the CDC's website. While these are not the only STIs, they are the most prevalent. Human papillomavirus is one of the most common STIs with approximately 79 million Americans infected and approximately 14 million new people infected each year.

Graph by Emily Carter

Construction on new Vic underway
Page 2



Kyser room revealed to once house radioactive material
Page 3



Victim of revenge porn speaks out
Page 9



THE CURRENTSAUCE



Between the Post Office and student union resides a plain purple wall being covered with a mosaic mural. The NSU art department has partnered with New Orleans ceramic artist and tile maker Mark Derby to create the mural. With the help of the NSU and Natchitoches community, the department hopes to finish the project by the end of the Fall 2015 semester. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Adam's advice: Students learn from Broadway star

Emily Carter
Associate Editor

"In some ways I am envious of you," began Adam Pascal at his Vocal Master Class workshop. "I wish I could go back and do it the way you are. I had never considered musical theatre as a career path, though musical film was an inspiration for me."

Pascal did little prep-work for the workshop, though he had a clear goal in mind — to be a source of information for those looking to pursue a career in theatre and to explain how he got on this path himself.

In Pascal's opinion, his entry into musical theatre was a bit unorthodox. He was in a rock band for years with his friends, but after years of not catching a break they broke up. A few months later, Idina Menzel called him asking if he would audition for "Rent," an off-Broadway musical she was recently cast in.

When he discovered they were looking for a rock singer, Pascal agreed. After several rounds of auditioning, including serenading the casting director with 'Your Eyes,' he was cast.

His first thought was "Oh fuck, how am I going to keep my job, go to rehearsal and do this show at the same time?"

The more he rehearsed and spent time with the cast the less he focused on that. And when he went onstage opening night he discovered what was wrong with his rock music. Pascal realized that he was "trying to fit a square peg in a round hole" and that he did not have "the rock star personality."

The musicians he tried to emulate did not align with what he wanted for himself, and by playing Roger in "Rent" he started writing new music that was more his style. He also discovered a level of comfort on stage that he didn't have before.

Continued on page 4

Jumping to glory

Serbian triple jumper fulfills dream of coming to Northwestern

Shania Dauterive
Contributing Writer

Hailing all the way from Serbia, Arsenjie Savic Jr. (A.J.) came to Northwestern in search of academic success and to excel in triple jumping here on the university track team.

Savic said he came to America in order to escape the small town life and to have more academic opportunities. He also hopes to use his experience here to build a professional track career. Northwestern was his goal, but first he had to take certain steps to get here.

Starting at Butler Community College in Kansas, Savic wanted to start on the basics then focus on criminal justice and be recruited to NSU's track team.

When Coach Wesley Miller finally recruited Savic, he went through changes to make his jump better. Savic said he appreciates Miller as a coach because he cares about his performance on the track and believes that he can become a professional.





Savic came to the U.S. from Belgrade, Serbia, to study and to join the track team for the triple jump. *Map from Creative Commons*

Zhaquan Porter, a fourth-year triple jumper, said Savic's experience before coming to NSU will help him reach his goals.

"Considering that he has experience from a junior college, he can do anything if he puts his mind and energy into it," Porter said.

Savic's triple jumping event consists of a three-time long jump where the jumper finishes in the sand. Savic described it as a difficult event that not many can do.

"I believe that I was born with this talent," Savic said. He considers triple jumping his "air" and "sun" and said that triple jumping runs in his blood.

Lawrence Wallace, a second-year high jumper, said his teammate's passion and dedication has a positive effect on the other athletes.

"A.J. is very helpful with the rest of the triple jumpers," Wallace said. "He is very helpful with boosting up his teammates' competition level."

Prior to becoming a professional, Savic would also like to pursue a career in criminal justice, which is the second reason he wanted to attend Northwestern State. He believes it has a great criminal justice program.

"I'm just interested in investigation and crime," Savic said. "I like to problem solve."

In regard to living in Natchitoches, Savic said he loves it. He appreciates how the weather is always hot. Savic also said he loves the campus because even though it is a small town, there is always something to do.

NSU makes it easy for him to stay focused on his goals, Savic said, and it makes him 100 percent committed, as a track athlete and a student.

Out with the old Vic, in with the new Vic

Kimberey Mosier
Staff Writer

After 45 years of representing the spirit at NSU, the old wooden statue of Vic the Demon was forced into retirement from his position last spring. Dr. Jim Henderson said what facilitated Old Vic's move was the renovation of the union. With the walls being redone and the installation of new signs, it was time to "up-grade" to a newer, fresher Vic statue.

"We're going to come back with a statue that captures a new angle on Vic," Henderson said. Now Old Vic stands in his new surroundings, the old 1936 Physical Plant building, along with all the other storage items

The new Vic statue may have big shoes to fill, but the Assistant Professor of Art and Facility Manager Corbin Covher is making them for him.

Covher was approached by Dr. Jim Henderson with the project of creating a new Vic in early June and even though the subject was new, the work was not. Before coming to NSU he worked making statues for some museum exhibits. He said it takes a lot of time, but the work is rewarding once it's finished.

Trying to bring out the epitome of change on campus, Covher thought up an interesting idea: "Why not mold Henderson's arms as part of the statue?"

Henderson thought the idea was interesting and as things currently stand, Vic's arms will be Henderson's.

"When you deal with a great artist like Corbin, he'll come up with some ideas." Henderson said. "It's his concept and I don't know if it'll be appropriate because my arms need to be proportionate to Vic. We probably have some other arms that could work, but I think he likes the way my hands make the 'Fork em!' sign."



Graphic by Hannah Fulton

Covher said this new Vic will look like most of the images students have seen of the original Vic. He'll be molded in a hard, plastic material called Urethane and lined with metal. With the exception of the head and arms, the body will be a typical manikin.

Covher said he wanted the new Vic to be versatile with the changing times, so he's designing him to wear real cloths and have the ability to change.

Students who've heard about this idea jokingly comment that the new Vic will be a "demonic, life-sized Barbie Doll."

So far, Covher has the head of the new Vic molded, but he is experimenting with facial expressions while waiting on his materials to arrive within the mail. He doesn't know when he'll finish, but he's excited to see it done.

"I'm at the mercy of the mail," Covher said. Along with this project, Covher is also overseeing the new tile mosaic wall project that will also go in the renovated union. The first phase of construction will start this October.

"Our president is a very asthetic guy," Covher said when describing Henderson's attitude toward the campus' appearance. "He wants the university to look good."

With the excitement of the unveiling of the new statue increasing, Henderson said he expects students will enjoy being around the new statue of Vic and will even want to take pictures with him. He said as the finished product comes together, he'll have to come up with an unveiling ceremony that'll "reflect Vic's new image."

Food pantry feeds students, addresses growing concern

Jade Williams
Contributing Writer

Prices of food are on the rise and college students aren't known to be bursting with money. It has become known to members of the Social Work Club that students are suffering simply because they cannot afford food. As a solution, volunteers have gotten together to solve the issue.

They have attempted to address the issue of students not getting enough to eat by opening a food pantry on campus. The food pantry is located across from the Creative and Performing Arts building near the Trisler Power Plant. Social work major and volunteer, Victoria Hebert, said that the pantry is open to current students in need of food in emergency situations.

The junior also stated that the pantry is run by volunteers who experience the incredible feeling of giving back to their community and fellow students on a daily basis. The pantry is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 1-4 p.m. The items available range from canned goods to boxed meals, such as Hamburger Helper.



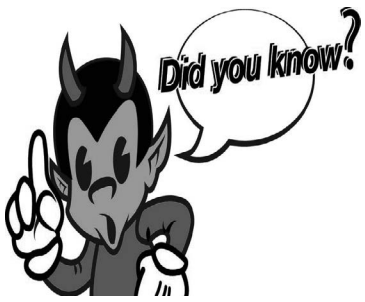
The pantry contains nonperishable items donated by students and Natchitoches residents.

Photo from Creative Commons

Those interested in volunteering may contact Denise Bailey at garlandd@nsula.edu.

Northwestern State Police Blotter

- 9/22/15-Vehicle collision, parking lot 30
- 9/22/15-Theft, parking lot 25
- 9/24/15-Theft of automobile, print shop parking lot, (vehicle unfound)
- 9/24/15-Vehicle collision, Turpin Stadium
- 9/25/15-Suspicious person, University Columns
- 9/26/15-Property damage, University Columns
- 9/26/15-Property damage, University Columns
- 9/26/15-Hit and run, Turpin Stadium (citation issued)
- 9/27/15-Disturbance, Univerity Place 1 (warning given)
- 9/27/15-Property damage, University Columns
- 9/27/15-Theft, University Place 2 (unfound)
- 9/28/15-Hit and run, parking lot 11
- 9/29/15-Property damage, Watson faculty parking
- 9/30/15-Fight, Student Union
- 9/30/15-Theft, Williamson Hall
- 9/30/15-Hit and run, University Columns
- 9/30/15-Dating violence, University Columns



"Vic" is short for "Victory"

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

The official name of NSU's mascot, the Demon, was determined by Ray Carney in a 300-entry contest in 1984, but his victorious reputation came from other means.

It is not unusual today to see mascots fighting, but the brawl between Vic the Demon and Northeastern's Chief Brave Spirit at the 1992 NSU Homecoming game made national news.

Known as the "The Tussle in Turnpin," it occurred midway through the second quarter of the game.

According to the NSU traditions website, KTBS-TV's Sam Schaecter made it his "Play of the Day" and the footage went to country from there.

Scott Ostler of the San Francisco Chronicle called it the "fight of the year" and wrote praising Vic as the winner after his continued persistence in the fight, even after his head was torn off.

Other media outsources such as KNBC in Los Angeles, WUSA in Washington, NBC's Today Show and, eventually, ESPN's College Gameday showed the fight and agreed with the decision that Vic was the victor.

At year's end, the fight ranked — by viewer vote — fourth on CNN's "Plays of the Year" show, and the footage continues to pop up on ESPN and other networks when a mascot brawl breaks out.

This event was one of the few football-unrelated events that made Southland Conference history.

Secrets of Kyser revealed:

What's behind door 141?



Room 141 in Kyser Hall once held radioactive material. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

Do you know what's hidden behind Kyser Room 141's door? The simplest answer is storage. The more complex answer involves storage and a history. Sandwiched between two labs, 141 offers no explanation for itself. Most students walk past it without a question in their heads regarding its existence. However, after an investigation, this room appears to have a somewhat radioactive past.

Room 141 is a very narrow room with three sub-rooms inside. Currently, the front room includes some very old files as well as some newer ones. When going to the second room, a heavy door must be opened that has inside of it 3 mm of lead. The room contains an empty, working refrigerator and sink along with old student records that will probably be disposed of quite soon. These records need to be burned in order to protect the privacy of students.

The third room has a lead-filled door as well, but that's not its oddest characteristic. This room contains a well dug into the ground covered with a caged, metal gate. Chairs top the well and a storage lift resides next to it, prepared to place things down the well. Strange scientific-looking materials are scattered around. Cleary, it has not been used in years.

According to Vice President for University Affairs Dr. Marcus Jones, Room 141 was used as a civil defense room. In the mid to late '60s, the room contained radioactive isotopes. At the time, the university had the license to store isotopes.

"This was part of a huge project at the time," Environmental Health & Safety Officer Tammie Pezant said. "We found the room in 2003, and at the time we did not have a license to carry on this type of work."

In order to eliminate any hazards, the school had to administer a decommissioning and call in professionals to clean the room of everything.

Now, the room is totally safe and most likely being turned into storage. This will conclude the strange past of 141. For years in between 2003 and 2015, the room remained a mystery to most. Students walk by it everyday without realizing that this room is one of the many secrets of Kyser.

Learning the story of Room 141 begs the question: What else is hidden in this building? What Kyser secrets are buried so deep that no one knows about them? With further investigation on the way, students should find out soon.

HC week blood drive on Kyser Brickway

Hannah Richardson
Contributing Writer

If you're searching for an opportunity to change someone's life for the better, then donating blood this week could be a rewarding choice.

The Life Share Blood Drive bus will be on the Kyser brickway Oct. 12-15 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Registered Nurse Lisa Hickman said that the most rewarding aspect of giving blood is knowing that you're saving a life.

"There's no substitute for blood," Hickman said. "It can't be made in a lab; it can only come from another person who decides to help someone they don't know."

Hickman also said that those receiving the donated blood will be patients in Central and North Louisiana. The only accepted donations this week will be whole blood, which better fits the needs of a patient, rather than a component that only meets specific needs of patients.

To make sure students do not become ill after donating, the LifeShare nurses recommend that students have food and drink in their system 24 hours before donating. It can be hard to get a full night's sleep at this point in the semester, but the nurses also strongly recommend doing so the night before if you plan on donating.

"I would recommend anyone to donate blood if they could," junior graphic communications major Rachel Neathamer said. "The blood banks have been running low lately, so donating blood could save a life."

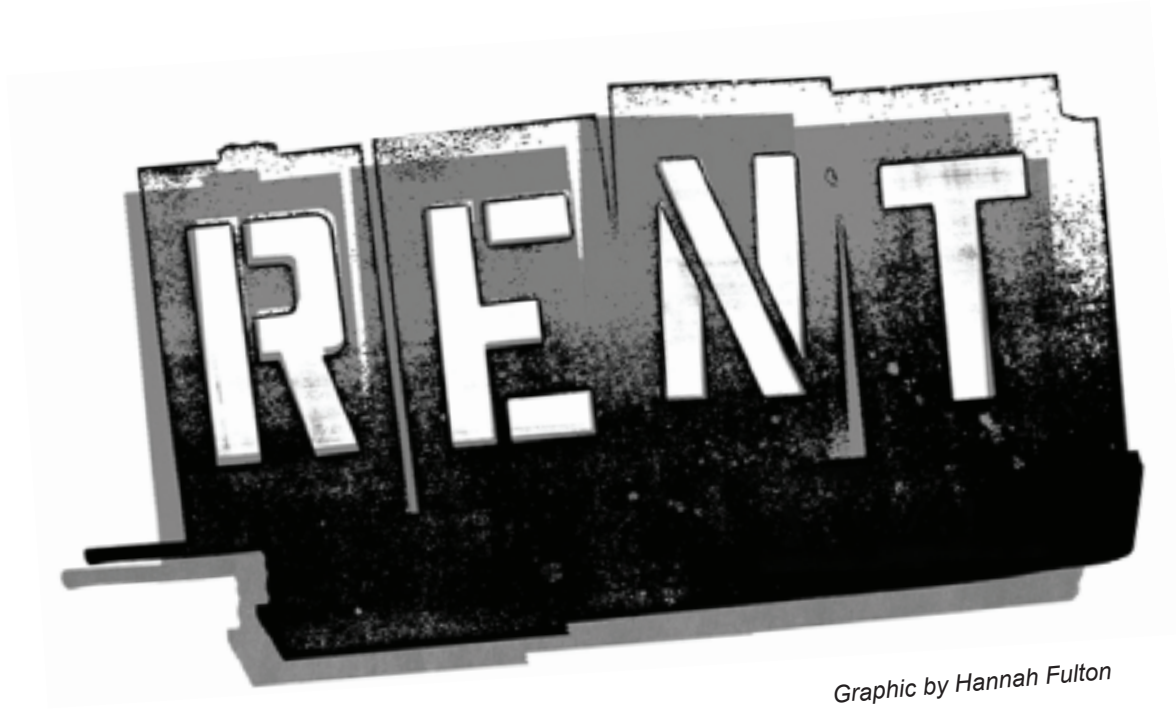


Life Share nurses collect signatures for blood drive. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

LifeShare's goal is to have 75 students donate each day. Several students have already signed up to donate, but walk-ins are more than welcome. Receiving a free T-shirt afterward is a bonus, but the real reward comes from knowing that you changed someone's life for the better.

525,600 Reasons to see 'Rent'

Julia Barry
Contributing Writer



Graphic by Hannah Fulton

"Not many times going to school in Natchitoches will you see a show that is rated R, has rock music and has semi-nudity," Holli' Conway said when asked why students should see the sold-out-show "Rent." She described it as a rare event.

The rock musical was a hit with students and professors alike at Northwestern State University at opening night on Sept. 30 in Theatre West.

"Rent," written by Jonathan Larson, is set in the Alphabet City section of Greenich village in 1991 New York City. Larson loosely based the story on Puccini's Opera "La Boheme" and his own experiences living as a struggling artist in New York City.

The narrator of the show is Mark, an aspiring filmmaker who documents his life and his friends. Some of the characters are living with Auto-Immune Deficiency Syndrome on the borrowed time provided by AZT, a drug now known as zidovudine that prevented the replication of the AIDS Virus.

"The show was really high stakes; that's what really set's the bar for all of these characters to sort of stay on that high extreme level of all of their emotions," NSU sophomore Nicholas Hebert said.

The show follows a year in the lives of a group of friends amid the height of the AIDS Epidemic and impoverished sections of New York City.

The show presents a scene that is very foreign to rural Natchitoches, La., but portrays "taboo things that people still look at and have different opinions on, and that's what gets everyone excited for 'Rent,'" Tyler Price Robinson, the show's assistant director, said.

"It's kind of that rebellious thing to people in our generation," Price said.

The characters in the play are based on people that Larson knew growing up in Greenwich Village.

"These are all people that he interacted with, from the person on the corner asking for change, to the cop that beats up the homeless person, to the homeless person, to the woman addicted to heroin," Director Pia Wyatt said.

In the show there are eight main cast members and eight ensemble cast members who play a variety of roles. Maureen Johnson, Joanne Jefferson, Angel Dumott Schunard and Tom Collins display examples of gay and lesbian relationships.

Mimi Marquez and Roger Davis portray two people living with AIDS striving to live their lives to the fullest. Mimi does so by living in the moment, while Roger strives to leave an impact on the world before he leaves it. Benjamin Coffin III and Mark Cohen contrast the two sides of an artist, one who tries to keep his art pure and the artist who concedes parts of his artistic vision to make money.

Throughout the variety of these real characters and their journeys, it is still relatable 19 years after its original production.

"Its themes are universal because it's a story of love, and it's a story of relationships and love in a whole bunch of aspects: love between a man and a man, love between a woman and a woman, love for the world, and love for being alive and for being able to survive," Wyatt said.

Students learn from Broadway star

Continued from front

"That began a career that has been extremely rewarding and extremely difficult," he said. "I can tell you as someone who has a lot of success in this career that it's extremely painful and disheartening and I've wanted to quit a million times."

Pascal went on to explain what they should prepare themselves for if they follow this path.

Most important is to work hard and understand that no matter how far someone goes in this business they won't get every role they audition for. And it won't necessarily be from a lack of talent. Many things go into casting roles, and talent is only a small part of it, Pascal said.

This led into him explaining that their self-worth can't come from the business; that it would only hurt them if they thought that way. Pascal emphasized having something else in their lives to hold them over during the 'in-between.' He said that this could be anything that helps fulfill their "sense of contentment, sense of joy, sense of happiness, because you're not going to get it from this career."

Pascal admitted that he held himself back at the beginning of his career. He was not interested in calling himself an actor, causing him to not be cast in films with directors ranging from Spielberg to Scorsese.

As he got more theatre roles, Pascal learned more about the craft and gained respect for the industry. His focus was on figuring out how to make acting and singing work together seamlessly — something that he thinks led to the success of "Rent." Every role he got helped him learn to combine these sometimes opposing art forms.

In the second part of the workshop, seniors concentrating in musical theatre sang songs they prepared beforehand. After they sang, Pascal commented on how they could improve the performance.

First up was Tyler Price singing "I Am What I Am" from "La Cage Aux Folles." Pascal advised Price to be more grounded in his performance. He told him to pay attention to the emotional changes in the song, telling him that there were two distinct pieces within the song.

"It felt more natural and connected," Price said after repeating the song.

Price went on to explain that he would continue to focus on articulating more when he sings. He's taking what he learned from Pascal and applying it to the opera he currently has a role in.

Also singing in the workshop was Hally Lambert. Choosing to perform "Adelaide's Lament" from "Guys and Dolls," Lambert was reminded to have more ballads in her audition repertoire. Lambert agreed to add more material that she "wouldn't go for naturally."

Pascal told everyone to rehearse multiple pieces for auditions and to practice their physical performances as well as their vocal ones. He explained that determining their physical movements to each piece beforehand would mean they wouldn't decide to move during auditions, which can be awkward.

"It's better to do nothing than to do something that isn't organic," he said.

Overall Pascal is impressed with the level of talent here. Though he hadn't heard of NSU until he was asked to come here, he is amazed with "the talent they've captured."

"I do a lot of these, and everyone here has been top-notch," he said.

Students enjoyed Pascal's visit. They agreed that his laidback attitude was really relaxing, especially for those who were nervous about singing in front of him. Junior Luke Matherne was glad that he explained how to stay safe when they get rejected for a role.

After the final vocal critique, Pascal took pictures and signed autographs for students.

Sound of Summer 2: Music for your ears

Paxton Britt
Contributing writer

A few major albums that music fans have been anticipating for months were dropped on Sept. 25, but there have also been some announcements and releases that were completely unexpected. I'll give you a recap of the recent developments in the music world.

The new album, Caracal, was released from U.K. electronica band Disclosure. The album's myriad of featured artists makes a diverse collection of tracks with something for everyone. A few songs have a good chance of becoming an album single, such as the track with alternative R&B artist The Weeknd called "Nocturnal" and especially the track with teen pop star, Lorde, called "Magnets."

Next up, straight out of Scotland is the sophomore release from Chvrches, "Every Open Eye." Doherty is on lead vocals, and anthem-like track lyrics and sound are expected from lead vocalist Lauren Mayberry, an informed social commentator that is not afraid of taking a stance or taking action because she is just completely awesome.

Now for the unexpected and complete shock releases, Ellie Goulding announced her new album Delirium set for release in November, along with the album's first single, an energizing power pop jam named "On My Mind."

A re-release deluxe version of Arcade Fire's album Reflektor was issued featuring five new tracks and a new recording of an album track that features a guest vocalist.

Sia and Sam Smith premiered new singles: Sia's track called "Alive" and Sam Smith's track, the theme for "Spectre" the upcoming Bond film, called "Writing's on the Wall." Finally, a track announcement was made from Bastille called "Hangin" for the FIFA 2016 soundtrack.

A few artists will be doing some big things in the near future that you should keep on your radar, while I will keep you in the know about who, what and where as things surface.

At the end of August, Pharrell Williams, the host of "OTHERtone" on Apple Music, interviewed the California pop band HAIM about favorite songs, family stories and their second album. The announcement of an Apple Music show hosted by HAIM was made during the interview, but no premiere date has been released.

Holly Fletcher is a 19-year-old from the U.K. that posted an EP she had recorded in her room, called "Monday EP," to Soundcloud in late 2013. Over 4 million Soundcloud plays later, Fletcher — performing under the name "Låpsley" — has released 12 tracks that are based in fundamental electronica, with few production complexities in the instrumental backtrack but an overflow of meticulous lyrical composition that is personal and deep.

After Låpsley had built up momentum with her first EP, radio popularities like Zane Lowe from BBC Radio 1 and music magazines such as NME began spreading the word about her music.

These promotions were a significant part of Låpsley's rise to fame and earned her a spot on the BBC Introducing stage lineup at Glastonbury 2014 and a feature on Annie Mac Presents 2014 of the track "Falling Short."

A few months later Låpsley signed with the music label XL Recordings.

Most recently was the release of the single "Hurt Me," which was a BBC Radio 1 Track of the Day that was soon followed by a music video. Låpsley is a brilliant musician with a beautiful voice that isn't even out of her teens, so it is safe to say she isn't going anywhere anytime soon.

Since May 31, obscure tweets have taunted the world with images and new logos for the second album from U.K. band, The 1975. Fans received a clue to the name of the album or a single Sept. 20, when a photo of a guitar with the words "What A Shame" written on it and the photo caption were tweeted by the band.

But the biggest clue of all came just four days later. A tweet of a photo simply reading "14 Days" was posted, letting fans know something big is coming.

Singles to Check out:

- Monogem - "Follow You"
- Half Moon Run - "Trust"
- The Dear Hunter -"Waves"
- Palm Trees - "Casanova"
- The Japanese House - "Cool Blue"
- Troye Sivan & Broods - "EASE"
- Dresses - "Catch"
- Tinashe & Young Thug - "Party Favors"
- Erik Hassle - "Natural Born Lovers"
- Great Good Fine OK - "Take it or Leave it"
- "Fortunes" - Metric
- "Never Ending Circles" - Chvrches
- "Hurt Me" - Låpsley

Local music festival promotes positivity and good vibes

Karla Ewing
Contributing writer

The Positive Music Fest, also known as the Louisiana Holy Hip Hop Fest, was held in Natchitoches at the Martin Luther King Community Center Oct 3.

The festival created a positive environment for attendees to enjoy good company, food and performances. The founder, Tania Barnum, described the purpose of the festival.

"The event is a yearly activity to reach out to the community, especially the youth, to give them something positive to do. Also this event lets the local celebrity artists, amateur artists and non-local artists show their talent."

Tickets were only $5 in advance, $10 at the door and $15 for VIP. Performances began at 6 p.m.

Performances included four categories: Holy Hip Hop, Positive Rap, Praise Dance/Positive Dance and Youth talent.

Door prizes including hats, ball caps, clothes, jewelry, purses, shoes, make up and a Sirus satellite radio were also given out during the festival.

The highlight of the event was the entertaining fashion runway activity.

Barnum encourages "all sizes, shapes and ethnic background to participate."

This year was the fourth Positive Music Fest sponsored by the New Beulah Association and Youth Organization.

The local New Beulah Youth Organization is a branch of the New Beulah Association. Barnum is the youth director for the New Beulah and also a Positive Rap artist.

The New Beulah Youth Organization hosts the festival to promote positivity in the community.

They welcome youth interested in becoming a part of their organization and community service.

For more information about the New Beulah Youth Organization, contact Barnum at 471-8167.

VOODOO

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Win FREE tickets to Voodoo Music Festival! Take a selfie with your copy of The Current Sauce using #saucepixfortix and post it on instagram for your chance to win. There is no limit to the number of entries allowed, you just have to be a current student at NSU.

The Current Sauce instagram is @thecurrentsauce. Contest opens Monday, Oct. 12 and closes Thursday, Oct. 15 at midnight. This year's lineup includes Florence + the Machine, Modest Mouse, Chance the Rapper and Elliphant.

#saucepixfortix

New RSO celebrates female students

Megan Boyanton
Life Editor

"La belle femme'" translates from French to English as the phrase, "the beautiful woman."

Student Nia Walker intends to celebrate the outer, but, most importantly, inner beauty and power of Northwestern State's women with her recently established RSO, La Belle Femme'.



"We are asked to follow pursuits that will not necessarily make us happy, but we rarely question that until we are well into our life scripts," Walker said about the general population.

"I want to help build confidence within oneself. I want to motivate people into following their dreams."

While Walker's group focuses on women, her goals of positivity and awareness involve the entire community.

She aims to strengthen the self-esteem of people as a whole.

After gaining her founding members, she first plans to actively increase their self-worths through La Belle Femme', and then pass the love on to Natchitoches' young women.

"I look forward to impacting lives through a series of events hosted by LBF, such as community service projects, forums, etc.," Walker said.

So far, La Belle Femme' held an informational on Monday, Sept. 28, in the President's Room of the student union to recruit potential members.

OrgSync applications were available online until Friday, Oct. 2, for interested students and formal interviewing — where business casual dress was strongly encouraged — occurred on Friday, Oct. 9, in the President's Room as well.

She highlighted the importance of passion in her selection process for La Belle Femme'.

An executive board has already been installed, with Nia Walker serving as its first president. Jade Gaines was selected as vice president, and Shanteria Montgomery acts as the secretary. The treasurer position has been filled by member Ivory Breland.

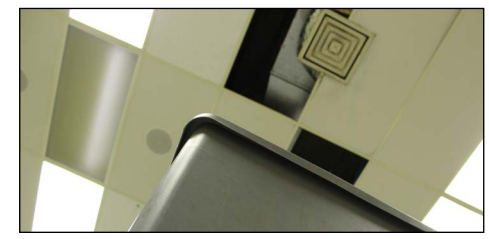
Walker credited alumna Kimberly Gallow with aiding in the creation of the student group.

The group has taken to utilizing imagery of the Parisian Eiffel Tower and the standard female gender symbol — also known as the Venus symbol — with a raised fist.

This particular variation of the gender motif is considered the worldwide representation of anarcha-feminism, which is labeled radical, but not militant.

Anarchist feminism strives for equality between the sexes and opposes the societal existence of the patriarchy.

La Belle Femme's Instagram, @labelle-femme_nsula, promotes the hashtag, #LBFNSULA, and posts updates through that social network.



Bienvenu Hall classrooms use trash cans for leaks. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

'Bienvenu Bayou' takes over building

John Hurt
Contributing Writer

A few leaky pipes don't seem like a big deal, right?

However, the third floor of Bienvenu Hall is experiencing serious leaks.

Because ceiling tiles are falling, rooms are being closed and activities moved to different locations.

Students studying as vet technicians are suffering as a result.

According to sophomore Kaitlyn Rose, students have had to clean surgical classrooms almost every day. Posing as a health problem, the water leaks conflict with the necessary sterility. Rose continued, explaining that summer brought a massive leak to the lecture room, which still has not been properly patched.

Additionally, the bird housing area and lobby of Bienvenu are similarly deteriorating. Staff members are working to address the issue, though.

"A new air handler has been ordered for the building," Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. Marcus Jones said on Facebook.

"Once that is installed, the problem should be corrected."

Only time will tell when Bienvenu Hall will be back in working order.



Cooking with Vic

Alec Horton
Lead Photographer

Southwestern Quinoa Salad
Preparation Time: 40 minutes
Servings: 4

Ingredients
- 1 cup quinoa
- 2 cups water
- 1 can whole kernel corn, drained
- 1/2 can black beans, drained
- 1 tomato
- Lime juice
- Cilantro
- Ground pepper
- Garlic salt

To make this healthy meal, first rinse one cup of quinoa in a mesh strainer. Empty into either a saucepan or rice cooker and add two cups of water.

With a rice cooker, use the white rice setting. This should take 15-20 minutes depending on your rice cooker.

With a saucepan, bring the quinoa to a boil and then reduce to low heat to let simmer for 5-10 minutes.

Dice the tomato while the quinoa is cooking separately.

The quinoa is finished cooking when it appears light and fluffy. Drain the remaining water and return to saucepan.

Mix in a can of whole kernel corn, half a can of black beans and the diced tomato. Add lime juice, cilantro, ground pepper and garlic salt to taste.

This dish tasted great served either hot or cold.

To serve hot, heat mixture in saucepan over medium heat, or microwave for approximately 30 seconds before serving as a meal.

To serve cold, cover and refrigerate for at least an hour.

In addition to making a healthy meal, this dish also makes a good side dish to accompany garlic lime chicken, breaded tilapia or chili.

Natchitoches wins national runner-up for unofficial title of 'Miss Gonorrhea'

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

Louisiana is a notable contender for the "Miss American STI" competition and, worse, Natchitoches is a contributor to its notoriety.

According to the most recent annual Sexually Transmitted Infection rate study by the Center for Community and Preventative Health in 2013, Louisiana ranked second in the nation for chlamydia rates and third for both preliminary and secondary syphilis. The state also holds a whopping first place for gonorrhea rates, despite the numbers being the lowest they have been in a decade.

According to the study, Natchitoches belongs to the Shreveport region, which ranked highest for gonorrhea diagnosis rates in 2012 out of the nine Louisiana regions. In 2013, Shreveport fell to the second highest region for gonorrhea rates, making it the regional runner-up for the unofficial title of "Miss Gonorrhea of America." Louisiana ranks third for HIV rates, according to the same study, and the Shreveport region ranks third in Louisiana for all reported diagnoses.

College students are at a high risk for contracting STIs with 15 to 24-year-olds representing half of all new STI diagnoses each year, according to the Center for Disease Control.

To prevent contracting and spreading STIs, the American Sexual Health Association recommends that individuals communicate with their partners about sexual health prior to sexual activity; consider getting a vaccine for HPV, Hepatitis and Hepatitis B; use protection; and regularly get tested for STIs, as symptoms may not be detectable.

The Natchitoches Parish Health Unit is located on 625 Bienville St. They offer STI tests for a $10 fee, but will not down turn down anyone for inability to pay. It is open Monday through Friday 8 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. For an appointment, call 357-3132.



Mason Reardon takes a positive outlook on young fashion outside of Kyser Hall. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Demon Style

Outfit of the issue featuring Mason Reardon

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

Mason Reardon, a film major, has one of the most consistent styles I've noticed on campus. Consistency is key to developing your own unique look, and Mason's got that distinctive style down like nobody's business.

The inspiration behind the outfit:
"A lot of time I go off of nothing, if that makes any sense. Whatever's the most free for me—like my hair, it doesn't matter what it does or what it looks like—it's about whatever you think is cool."

Any college fashion pet peeves?
"No, not at all, because everyone has their own sense of style. It's about whatever you feel is cool, and if you feel cool, you are cool."

Style advice:
"Advice? Let's see… if you're ever self conscious about what you're wearing, just keep in mind that it doesn't matter, because, in the end, it's all about what you think—it's your own style."

Vibe for the day:
"It affects my vibe because, if I'm feeling myself or if it's a good day and I'm feeling good, it's gonna be a good day."

Homecoming queen's reign of service

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

Brittany McConathy, queen of the 2015 Homecoming Honor Court, is still in shock of her new title.

"It's literally a dream come true to represent the school I love," McConathy said.

Her success may stem from the personality traits she embraces.

McConathy described herself as organized, goal-oriented and loud.

"I hate to lose, and I also dedicate myself fully to any project I'm working on," McConathy added.

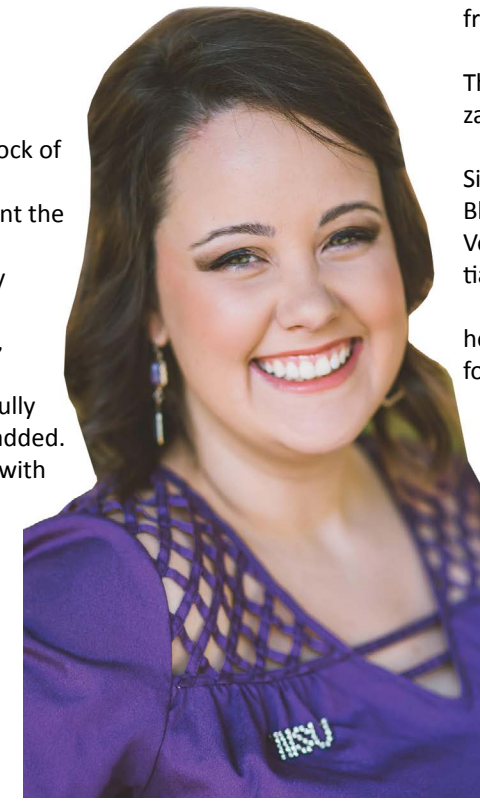
Winning both Mister and Miss NSU, along with Homecoming King and Queen, Matthew Whitaker and Brittany McConathy felt the need to give back to the community with their titles.

She added that this is the first time that homecoming royalty have tried using their individual titles to endorse university-centered service projects.

"We felt like we could do more than just wave on the football field," she said.

The pair has created a service project to promote the pre-existing organization, "Empower Nepali Girls," which professor Patrice Moulton volunteers with regularly.

The goal is to raise money that will help rebuild schools, provide free tuition and pay for school uniforms — amongst other utilities — for young Nepali women. Part of this project involves money raised from the Lipsync competition.



Brittany McConathy was awarded the titles of both homecoming queen and Miss NSU — an uncommon occurrence. *Submitted by Brittany McConathy*

Service projects are not new to McConathy. The Deville native maintains a long list of organizational work.

Her titles include president of Sigma Sigma Sigma, 2015 Freshmen Coordinator, member of Blue Key and Purple Jackets, member of Demon Volunteers in Progress and member of Presidential Leadership Program alumni.

The business administration major carries with her ongoing Demon pride. McConathy's passion for NSU began long before she began attending school here.

Now, with a graduation date in December coming her way, she is not ready to leave.

"I've seen the university grow tremendously in the past four years, and I feel like a part of that growth," McConathy said.

In regard to future plans, McConathy wants to eventually own her own business.

Before that, however, she would love to work at NSU.

"Right now I'm getting the experience I need for my business, and I hope that continues," she said.

Additionally, the 2015 Homecoming Queen has recently gotten engaged.

McConathy gave some advice to students looking for the college experience at NSU.

"Don't rush things," she said. "Give it all you've got and enjoy being a Demon. Enjoy your time here."

Homecoming then and now: A peek at 1951's NSU



1951's edition of the Potpourri yearbook highlights the "Northwestern State College" experience, including homecoming. *Photo by Megan Boyanton*

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

A name that matches its meaning, homecoming is the time when students and alumni alike come "home" to their purple and white — with orange trim — alma mater.

With the competitive spirits of student organizations at an all-time high, this common tradition never dies. Alumni come out of the woodwork to be a part of the weeklong festivities that current Demons participate in each year.

"Homecoming is one of my favorite seasons on campus," NSU president Dr. Jim Henderson said. "The university just comes to life with activity, students and alumni."

Although times have changed, homecoming remains the opportunity to determine Lip Sync competition winners, host a parade of decorated floats and give the opposing football team a beating in the Turpin Stadium.

Now — insert time warp here — imagine NSU Homecoming, in the style of 1951. It's Oct. 23, and Saturday classes, which used to be considered the norm, have been canceled in honor of this annual autumn event.

Ten decorated floats, the Northwestern State University and Natchitoches Central High School's bands and both the ROTC and Air Force marching units paraded the city of Natchitoches while being led by the elected queen and her court.

"Probably the most memorable homecoming for me was last year's. Tonia and I had just found out we were returning to the place it all started for us, so the concept of Homecoming took on a very special meaning." — Dr. Jim Henderson

Following the parade, floats were awarded in places on a first through third basis — a custom NSU still follows — and the Demons took a loss on the field against Southeastern University. However, there was still an excuse to celebrate: a homecoming dance was held in the student union that same evening.

Going "back to the future," NSU still holds some of the same "Hoco" customs with the exception of dancing the night away — that is, unless you count The Student Body.

NS'U' Voice

What do you think of Pope Francis' visit to America?

Jennifer Sauer, Senior, Social Work Major	"Whenever I first heard about the pope visiting America I was really fascinated by it, especially since I heard that they spent a million dollar budget on his security. I think it was good for him to get out of the Vatican and come to the States ... Considering that I am a social work major, it means a lot to me, and I'm pretty sure to the rest of my department, to see somebody that holds such a high standard come out and speak to people."
Virginia Faogaust, Freshman, Accounting Major and Foreign Language Minor	"It shows that he's willing to learn about cultures around the world and work with them, showing that he cares to get to know people ... I think that by him going to other countries he is trying to break down that wall people have with this view that Catholics are very rude and hateful people. I think that he's trying to change that, because he has gone above and beyond with talking to people of different religions and people of different sexual orientations. I think that him going to other countries shows that he does care."
Tara Johnston, Sophomore, English Major and Communication Minor	"I believe that it's a great idea that Pope Francis is trying to explore the world and the cultures in it, but his arrival just shows how much our society is influenced by status and power. No matter the issue or how important it may be, it will always get more recognition if the subject has a platform such as social media or if someone of importance speaks on the matter. With that being said, I think that because of his status he can influence people for the better and not for the worse, unlike the 'celebrities' that we look up to."
Katlin Ernest, Freshman, General Studies Major	"It's great to hear that Pope Francis was here in America ... If he were to come to Louisiana I would definitely love to go and see him."

Reasons to go vegan: Animal welfare

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Imagine this: A pig and a dog are playing in a field. You see someone walk up to the two animals and cut the pig's tail off.

This person continues to brutally attack the innocent animal, slaughter it and attempt to hand you a strip of its flesh to eat. Would you take it? Would you have tried to stop the attack?

Let's say this same scenario occurred, except the person attacked the dog rather than the pig. What makes this situation different?

Animals are living beings, and, whether your bacon is presented in a colorful refrigerated package or straight off the bone, one fact remains: It is the flesh of a once-living animal.

Let's talk numbers.

Half a pig, 40 fish, 26 chickens, one turkey, one-tenth of a cow and 130 shellfish — that is the amount of animals the average American consumes per year.

A total of 198 — that is the amount of animals saved per vegan each year, according to PETA member Noam Mohr in an article on the organization's website.

Yes, meat tastes great, but is it worth the life of an innocent animal? That's for you to decide. As for me, I believe Alicia Silverstone got it right: Veganism is "The Kind Diet." Happy eating!

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Expressions of a revenge porn victim

Anonymous Contributor

Nudes. You've either sent or received them or know someone involved with them.

DailyMail.com reports that dating couples are more likely to "sext" than those of married or single status. Of course, right?

Well, throw in a long-distance relationship, and you end up where I was.

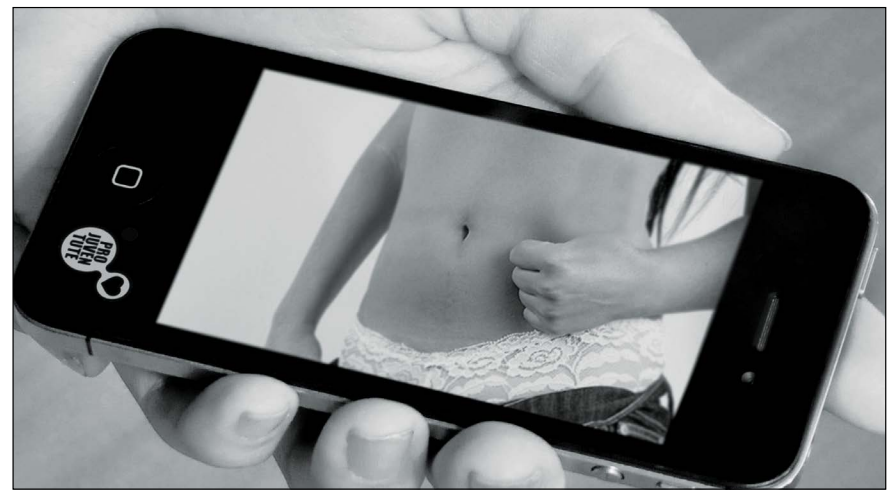
"I promise it's only for me." "It'll really make me happier." "I just don't want to cheat, but it's hard when I never get to see you." Excuses echoed in my head for too long.

Caught somewhere between lonely and wanting to spice up the relationship, I fell into a trap. Fast-forward to a nasty break-up between two competitive people that always have to have the last word, and you can guess what happened next.

"Dude, is this you?" Shit. Now, my five-for-$27 was on display for all to see, and it was mortifying.

"Booty pics" seem great — until guys you consider brothers have them popping up on their phones without your consent.

What would my friends think? Wait, what would my PARENTS think? Being extremely close with my mom, I couldn't help but picture that look of pure disappointment if she were to ever find out.



One in 10 exes threatens to share risky material, and 90 percent of today's revenge porn victims are women. *Photo from Creative Commons*

Then, she did, because he decided sending just one wasn't enough. After being bombarded with an impossible amount of humiliation that I couldn't handle on my own, I decided to reach out for help. I told my mom what happened and immediately started to look for a solution.

Surely, what he was doing couldn't be legal, right? Well, at the time, it was.

Thanks to Gov. Jindal, however, after June 25, 2015, anyone who forwards nudes could be charged up to $10,000 in fines and up to two years in prison.

This category includes any and all images shared showing a person's "circles and squares" without their consent or with the intention of embarrassment and revenge.

"Oh, but I only forwarded it. I didn't actually do anything." Nope. You're in the same boat as the original sender.

It's called revenge porn, and its only purpose is to humiliate. If you share it, then you're really only aiding in the process.

Apparently, revenge porn isn't that uncommon. CyberCivilRights.org states that one in 10 exes threaten to share risky material of their ex-partners, and a shocking 60 percent go through with those threats. Also, 93 percent of victims suffer significant emotional distress, and 90 percent of victims are women.

I'm not one to say "think about if it was your daughter or mother," because that really shouldn't be the reason to avoid sharing it.

Knowing those pictures are out there makes me — and I'm sure everyone else that this has happened to — feel helpless, hopeless and embarrassed. It makes me feel that I, as a person, don't matter to those sending them, like I'm just an object to be shared around . . . and it's not okay.

Student offers perspective on D.C. "rat race"

Megan Boyanton
Life Editor

The Washington D.C. rat race for presidential candidacy in 2016's election really kicked off this year. By "kicked off," I mean that the GOP had enough potential leadership to start a fraternity chapter on campus.

I didn't openly embrace the Democratic Party until my college years because of my relatively conservative family upbringing and my current residency in The Bible Belt. While I've grown politically louder with age and more opinionated in my views, it's undeniable to most Americans (and to those on the outside looking in) that the Democrats are running much more professional campaigns so far.

Granted, Hillary Clinton has a monstrous amount of support, but her tactics are rather shady. She's an intelligent woman with a lot of political experience — some just view her as a former First Lady, but she served as both the Secretary of State and a Senator for eight years. However, her "transparency" is practically non-existent, and the drama over her e-mails shattered any personal loyalty.

Thankfully — big sigh of relief here — Scott Walker dropped out of the race recently, leaving only, what? A dozen?

Let's go through the list of reasons why certain candidates shouldn't run, disregarding the fact that many of them have recent photo opportunities with admitted child molester and passionate Republican, Josh Duggar.

Bobby Jindal is a given failure. Ask anyone with a brain who has lived in Louisiana within the past seven years. His approval rating as governor was a mere 27 percent in March. The state has a D+ education system and ranks as the 44th worst out of 50 states (at least we surpassed Mississippi). He doesn't have the gall to stand up for immigrants, even though his parents came from India and his real name is Piyush. Even his buddies from Duck Dynasty — a Louisiana-based television series — pulled their support for him in favor of Donald Trump.

Honestly, we should adopt the British approach of not letting anyone run as leader of the Free World who hasn't served previously in government (I'm looking at you, Waka Flocka).

That would eliminate Trump and Carly Fiorina. While Fiorina's intelligence and will as the lone female GOP candidate impress me, her inability to stand up for women's reproductive rights is both hypocritical and off-putting.

I still cannot take Donald Trump seriously. To think that his fan base really believes this man can relate to their poverty-stricken Southern childhoods and Christian beliefs?

Given that we live in a democracy and not a theocracy, that America does not have to identify as a Christian nation, politics and the Church should have no ties, but I digress. His derogatory comments about women, immigrants, his fellow candidates and this idiotic wall on the Mexican border (faintly reminiscent of The Great Wall that worked out so well for China) define him. Such a backwards, egotistical man has no place at the helm of a country.

I thought salvation would come in the form of Dr. Ben Carson, but, alas, he has disappointed me, too. For someone with a Ph.D., hailing from the streets of



Donald Trump gives crowd peace sign after speaking at Political Action Conference. *Photo from Creative Commons*

Detroit, to make such a discriminatory comment against Muslims? Inexcusable. Every child can dream about running for president one day, except for Muslim children. When did they lose their rights? Isn't America founded on religious freedom? Additionally, he's convinced the LGBT community is conspiring to launch a Marxist agenda on the country, so that's all I need to know about his open-mindedness.

That leaves Bernie Sanders— my last hope. The only candidate running his campaign without the money of corporations (disregarding Trump, who is funding himself), Sanders is my Democratic saving grace.

He cares about gay rights, women, all races and religions. His own grandparents died in the Holocaust, and he listened to Martin Luther King at the March on Washington. He's Jewish, but his wife is Catholic. He's educated— a University of Chicago graduate— and wants the same for the upcoming generations. He has the experience from the Senate, listens to scientists about climate change and talks about prison reform. I can actually picture him being diplomatic, drinking tea with Arab leaders and following customs, and building ties with these nations we've destroyed. I'm feeling the Bern, NSU.



The Lady Demons celebrated after a conference win during last year's season. They ended their season 36-18, 22-3 in Southland Conference as they made their way into the Southland Conference Tournament for the second consecutive year. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Lady Demon softball prepares for new season

Ben Wellman
Sports Reporter

After a disappointing end to a good season last year, the Lady Demon softball team is ready to hit the diamond again.

After winning three games and losing two in last season's Southland Tournament, the Lady Demons are ready to tackle a new season. They finished with an overall record of 36-18 and an impressive 22-3 Southland record.

The Lady Demons have largely the same roster, with only three graduates last season: catcher Cassandra Barefield, utility player Kayla Boening and infielder Brittany Virgoe.

One of the key players for the Lady Demons this season is likely to be junior outfielder Kellye Kincannon, who had the highest batting average on the team at .409 last season. Kincannon had 70 hits, 15 of which were home runs.

Most of the pitchers from last season will be returning to the mound. Playing the bulk of games last season for the Lady Demons were sophomore Micaela Bouvier and junior Mikayla Brown, who posted a combined 27 wins and 9 losses between the two of them. Bouvier led the team in strikeouts, posting 79 throughout the season.

As for fielding, junior infielder Brittany Jones will look to lead the team again. Jones led the team in catches last season with 335, 324 of which were putouts and a .997 fielding percentage. Along with Jones, sophomore catcher Kaytie Proctor had 184 putouts last season. Leading the team in assists were sophomore Hailee Rhodes with 82, Virgoe with 77 and junior outfielder Mikayla Sorosiak with 66.

The Lady Demons have already begun practicing for the upcoming season, with the first full-squad practice of the season taking place on Sept. 28.

"Everybody was really anxious to get back on the field and get into a routine," Lady Demon head coach Donald Pickett, entering his seventh year in charge, said. "The girls looked really good [today] with a lot of energy and enthusiasm."

While the Lady Demons just missed out on the NCAA tournament last season, they made it there the two seasons prior, and they'll be looking to make it back there this upcoming season.

"We want to work on the mental things offensively and defensively and talk about those situations," Pickett said.

Also being integrated into the team are this year's freshman class. Catcher Kaylee Isenburg said the first practice helped her shake off the preseason jitters.

"At first it was really intimidating, but I got in the field and fell into my groove," Isenburg said. "After I got into it, I went with the flow and the softball part of me came out. It was a great practice, and we're really clicking as a team."

Freshman pitcher Katelyn Boles has also been adjusting to the college ball life and integrating with the team.

"College is totally different from high school and the first two weeks are rocky as you try to adjust to your class schedule and weights," Boles said. "But after that, it has gone smoothly."

The Lady Demons has started their fall games with trips to Louisiana State University and Baylor University already. On Saturday, Oct. 17, they will visit Louisiana Tech to take on the Lady Bulldogs and Jones County Junior College. The following week, Oct. 24, they will take on Trinity Valley Community College on the Lady Demon Diamond.

Sophomore outfielder Kellye Kincannon was named Southland Conference Softball Student-Athlete of the Year.

NSU's Brittney Jones, Brittany Virgoe and Kincannon were all named a part of the 2015 Southland Conference All-Academic Softball Team.

Volleyball team gets shutout in tough conference loss

Sports Information Directory

Against a conference-leading team, Northwestern State first-year head volleyball coach Sean Kiracofe knew his team needed a strong performance from start to finish.

Northwestern State made a late push Saturday afternoon against Southland Conference-leading Texas A&M-Corpus Christi in Prather Coliseum, but it came too late as the Islanders picked up a 3-0 sweep for their sixth straight Southland Conference victory.

Northwestern State dropped its fifth straight match, falling to 3-17 overall and 1-6 in conference play.

"They are very consistent," Kiracofe said. "They are good all the way across the net. They are good across the back row. You take one thing away from them, and someone else will step up and score."

The Islanders (18-4, 6-0) spread their offense around with Brittany Gilpin and Morgan Carlson leading the way with eight kills apiece.

Texas A&M-Corpus Christi enjoyed an efficient start to the match, hitting .360 as it won the first set 25-17.

In the second set, Northwestern State knocked almost 100 points of the Islanders' hitting percentage before falling 25-18.

NSU made some changes after the first set, including moving outside hitter Lauren Agan to more of a defensive role. Agan compiled a match-high 12 digs, setting a season high in the process.

"We started out pretty rough on the back row in set one, so we made some changes," Kiracofe said. "We flipped our outsides and put Lauren back there in the L2 position. She's more offensive at the net, but we needed her back there today, and she made the adjustments."

The visiting Islanders appeared ready to make the third set a blowout, going up 24-17 after a Northwestern State service error.

Glynna Johnson's kill off a set by Natalie Jaeger (28 assists) set in motion a 5-0 run that included a pair of tandem blocks by Johnson and freshman Reagan Rogers, who made a quick impact in her lone set of the match.

An NSU attack error ended the match, but Northwestern State took some momentum away from the 25-22 third-set loss.

"(Rogers) was very smart with the ball and took the opportunities presented to her and did some good things with them," Kiracofe said. "That was good to see."

Northwestern State completes its three-game homestand Tuesday night against Stephen F. Austin. The 7 p.m. match will be an Orange Out with proceeds from the match going to support the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Natchitoches resident Wes Rollo, who is battling leukemia, will serve as NSU's honorary team captain.



After getting setup by her teammate, outside hitter Lauren Agan slapped the ball across the net for a Demon point. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*



The Lady Demons defeated Sam Houston St. by a score of 2-1 in double overtime as sophomore forward Esdeina Gonzalez kicked the game winning goal with 10 seconds left on the clock. They are now 4-7-3 and 1-3-2 in Southland play. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*



NSU received three singles championships at the SMU Invitational fall women's tennis tournament that took place on Oct. 11. The fall season ends for NSU next weekend with the USTA/ITA Southern Regional Championships at Auburn. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

THE HOMECOMING GAMES 2015

OCTOBER 12-17



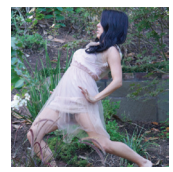
NORTHWESTERN STATE SAB STUDENT ACTIVITIES BOARD

MAY THE ODDS BE EVER IN YOUR FAVOR

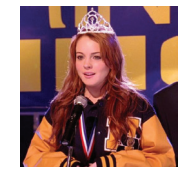
MON	THE REAPING	Homecoming Kick-off Party	Kyser Brickway	11am-2pm
TUE	TRAINING	5K Glow Run & Bonfire	Greek Hill	8pm
WED	THE SCREENING	Mockingjay Pt.1	Normal Hill	8pm
THU	THE GAMES	Lipsync ft. Dakaboom	A.A. Fredericks	6pm
FRI	VICTORY TOUR & VICTOR'S BALL	Parade & Pep Rally	Front Street	5:30pm
SAT	HC FOOTBALL	NSU vs. Lamar	Turpin Stadium	6pm

Northwestern State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, genetic information, age, pregnancy or parenting status, and veteran or retirement status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following individuals have been designated

Dancers break tradition in outdoor 'Modern in Motion' Page 6-7



Student critiques NSU homecoming, calls for inclusivity Page 9



Demons deemed homecoming heroes, 48-35 Page 10



THE CURRENTSAUCE

Argus celebrates 40 years at NSU

Julia Barry
Contributing Writer



Argus, the university's award-winning art and literary magazine, is accepting submissions for its 40th anniversary edition.

The theme for this year's edition is "Masquerade" and comes from a quote from E.B. White: "Writing is both mask and unveiling."

Editor-in-Chief Maggie Harris said she chose the theme because, when writing, the author can be his or her "true self, or you can be somebody else; it doesn't matter. You can be whoever you want. Writing gives you that avenue to be so creative, and it's such an opportunity to share what you feel passionate about."

Argus has displayed the artistic expressions and perceptions of students since 1976, when it was first founded under the guidance of Faculty Advisor Dr. Christine "Pickering" Ford and Editor-in-Chief Victoria Tucker.

Continued on page 4

#SAUCEPIXFORTIX winner: chandler_ay



chandler_ay #saucepixfortix 😈 at work hiding so that I can win the tixs 😈 #nsula #saucepixfortix #forkem #thecurrentsauce

NSU student Alexandra Chandler won two free tickets to Voodoo Fest in New Orleans Halloween weekend after posting selfies in The Current Sauce's annual #saucepixfortix contest.

VOODOO

'The Hunger Games' comes to NSU in full force

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

At the dawn of homecoming week, a feeling of competition erupted through campus. Practices for Lipsync, plans for floats and the collection of canned foods were all executed while each organization tried to think like their opponents in order to gain on their rivals in the process.



Throughout the week of Oct. 12-16, students competed for the winning title in these "Homecoming Games," a pun from the week's theme: "The Hunger Games." The competitions included a 5K glow run, canned food drive, banner competition, Lipsync battle and homecoming parade.

After they combined the results at the end of the week, Sigma Sigma Sigma had it. Winning the overall "Homecoming Games" — including the float competition, Lipsync Tribute Award and Lipsync Homecoming Hunnies Award — the sorority managed to conquer. Sigma Sigma Sigma Sophomore Brandi Corkern deemed her sorority's journey to the top "stressful but exciting."

"I think having something to strive for is a lot of fun," Corkern said. "I'm really competitive, so the outcome was very rewarding."

Phi Mu Fraternity finished close behind in the games. They won the canned food drive and collected over 5,600 cans for local food banks, along with winning the Lipsync People's Choice Award.

Students voted for the winning performance on OrgSync during intermission, and the Phi Mus had the students on their side. The banner competition went to Alpha Omicron Pi.

The Tribute Award debuted at Lipsync this year. It is a new award created by Homecoming King and Queen and Mr. and Ms. NSU Matthew Whitaker and Brittany McConathy. By the end of the night, the organization with the most money in its jar after students placed money in throughout the night won the award.

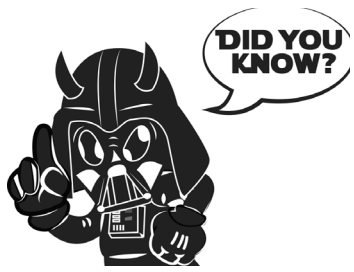
Overall, over $500 was raised from the Tribute Award. The money goes to the "Empower the Nepali Girls" national charity.

While many students involved in the games felt the tension between organizations throughout the week, some noted that the emphasis on service shifted the attention. Alpha Omicron Pi member Ashley Chesal found the atmosphere this year very different from years past.

Continued on page 5



The overall winner of "The Homecoming Games" was Sigma Sigma Sigma sorority. Some of the events they placed in include the float competition, Lip Sync Tribute Award and Lipsync Homecoming Hunnies Award. Members of the sorority were proud that the work they put into Homecoming Week resulted in winning overall. *Photo from Creative Commons*



Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

By the time you read this, over 1,000 showings for the movie "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" will be sold out by tickets booked two months in advanced.

On Monday, Oct. 19, the trailer for the seventh "Star Wars" movie aired advertising its release on Dec. 17 and promoting the online purchasing of advanced tickets. Since then, Washington Times reports the movie already "smashing" records in ticket sales.

Fandango, the market leader in online ticket sales, reported that it has sold an "unprecedented" amount of tickets. There were eight times as many tickets sold compared to the previous record holder for first day ticket sales, "The Hunger Games." Demand was so high Monday night that the site—among several other movie-ticket purchasing sites—had technical problems.

Large-format and digital screens company Imax said "The Force Awakens" so far generated $6.5 million of advance sales in the U.S. and Canada and is still growing. Its previous record for a single day of sales — shared by "The Dark Knight Rises," "The Hunger Games: Catching Fire" and "Avengers" — was $1 million.

Northwestern State University students and Natchitoches residents interested in purchasing tickets can risk a chance of using the previously mentioned websites, but may encounter some sold-out shows. Desperate viewers can still purchase tickets through other means like eBay where one seller is asking $10,000 for a pair.

The new trailer generated nearly 13 million views in just its first 15 hours on the "Star Wars" YouTube channel. It holds a total of 8.4 million views and "likes" by more than 207,000 people on Facebook.



Team meets on Friday afternoons to prepare for upcoming competitions. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Speech and Debate rises again

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

"Once I tried debate, it was amazing, and I never looked back," senior Ryan Ware, president of the resurrected debate team, said.

Ware fell in love with public speaking when he was in the fourth grade.

"I became involved with 4-H and started doing speech contests," he said. "At first I channeled that interest into theatre. In the sixth grade one of the mentors of my life, Principal Evelyn Sisco, suggested I consider debate once I reached high school."

The Scholars' College liberal arts major's high school alma mater is a school of creative and performing arts. Ware intended to continue on in theatre, but once he experienced debate, there was no turning back.

"My initial love of speaking transformed into a love for arguments," he said.

Ware has high hopes for the debate team this year. Attending debate tournaments and "testing the waters" are short-term goals he has planned for this year. As far as long-term goals, the junior said that he wants to see the program grow here.

"I would like to see NSU return to being one of the top programs in the nation," he said.

Music education major Hannah Morris grew to love debate while attending Bossier Parish Community College. She took a speech class with Bob Alexander, and he asked her to join the team. The speech teacher's invite was written on one of her exams.

"I had never done anything like that before I took his class," Morris said. "I hadn't really thought about it before. I'm glad I took him up on his offer."

The senior helped spark the return of the debate team before transferring here.

"I was only able to do BPCC debate for one year before I had to transfer here," Morris said. "I kept badgering Bob about it. He told me to email the professors and to continue to try to get one started."

Morris's determination was not in vain. After sending emails and not getting many replies, she finally got in touch with Dr. Davina McClain.

"She emailed me and told me that she was bringing the debate team back, and that I should come," she said. "That's how I got here."

McClain, associate professor of classics, has taught Latin and Greek at the Scholars' College since 2006. Last spring she was given the position as T.H. Roberts Endowed Professorship of Debate.

"It wasn't really my intention to get the debate team started again, but I did raise the issue," she said. McClain was invited to apply for a position as the adviser.

In the '90s, members of NSU's Speech and Debate Team were national champions.

"In 2007-2008, there were driven students here," she said. "Those students have gone on to law school, graduate school and are working in their careers. Now we have another group of driven students ready to get out there."

Speech meets on Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. in the student union Room 315, and Debate meets Wednesday evenings at 8:30 p.m. in the union in Room 314. Both teams meet on Fridays at 1 p.m. in Room 316 of the union.

"Speech and Debate is fun," McClain said. "It's a good way to build confidence."

Police Blotter

- 9/24/15-Hazing, KA House
- 10/01/15-Vehicle Crash, University Place 1
- 10/04/15-Bike Theft, University Place 2
- 10/04/15-Bike Theft, University Place 2
- 10/07/15-Theft, WRAC
- 10/07/15- Hit and run, Parking lot 25
- 10/07/15-Vehicle Crash, Parking lot 10
- 10/07/15-Sexual harassment, Sam Sibley Dr.
- 10/08/15-Drug law violation, University Place 1 (summons issued)
- 10/08/15-Vehicle Crash, Student Union West Parking
- 10/12/15-Hit and run, South Hall Parking
- 10/14/15-Person with weapon, Chaplains Lake
- 10/15/15-Hit and run, Caspari St.
- 10/16/15-Simple Battery, University Columns
- 10/17/15-Hit and run, South Jefferson St.
- 10/18/15-Suspcious Person, Rec Complex
- 10/18/15- Burglary, Varnado Hall



Graduate student Emily Zering and freshman Dane Williams add tiles to the mural. The tiles that form the words were special-ordered from Mark Derby. *Photo by Ashley Wolf*

Coca-Cola sponsors first public art piece at Northwestern

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

NSU Fine + Graphic Arts Department has partnered with New Orleans ceramic artist and tile maker Mark Derby to create their first public art piece on campus, a mosaic mural featuring the local flora and fauna of Natchitoches.

The mural will compliment the new tables with umbrellas that Coca-Cola will be placing outside of the Grill between the post office and the student union. Coca-Cola is sponsoring the mural to liven up the new space, and in turn, the art department is reusing Coke and Sprite bottles to blend into the tiles within the image.

"Hopefully, it's the first of many public art pieces that we can work on to make our campus more special because it's a really beautiful campus," Associate Professor of Art Leslie Gruesbeck said.

The once plain purple wall is a work of art in progress that Associate Professor of Art Leslie Gruesbeck says is about 30 percent complete. The department hopes to finish the project by the end of the Fall 2015 semester.

The finished product will feature native plants and animals in Natchitoches, even excluding invasive species and including skunks, some of the sneakiest pests native to Natchitoches.

At the corner of the wall, Assistant Professor of Sculpture Corbin Covher added a personal university touch by molding the bark tiles from a living oak tree on campus, a feat that required the creation of over 300 tiles.

Above the "Cane River," a verse from Northwestern State University's Alma Mater will tie the whole image together: "Thy trees their solemn chorus bend about thee, flowers their censers blend."

Art students and faculty started creating tiles in August after the first of three workshops with Mark Derby, the creator of the tiles embedded in the sidewalks of New Orleans identifying the street names.

Derby taught students how to start with raw clay and finish with a completed tile, a process that takes around five days and consists of the following: sculpting raw clay and letting it dry, bisque firing the clay, glazing it for the pigment and bisque firing it again.

Derby returned for his second workshop on Oct. 1 to teach the placement of the mural and will return once more in December to teach students how to seal the mural with grout, the white substance between bathroom tiles.

"As far as making tile, we're getting down to the nitty gritty," Assistant Professor of Sculpture said.

Argus anniversary recognized

Continued from front page

The magazine is now under the guidance of Dr. Julie Kane and Harris, but continues its legacy of publishing student expression.

Argus showcases poetry, short stories, artwork, photography and creative non-fiction written by students.

Over the years, Argus has captured the opinions and reactions of students as they have experienced different historical events, like the war in Vietnam, 9/11, and Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, Harris said.

The capturing of hundreds of perceptions over the years falls in with the magazine's namesake 'Argus,' a one-hundred-eyed giant in Greek mythology whose eyes were placed on a peacock after his death.

"Like Argus of mythology, students at NSU have varied perceptions of their environment, and numerous ways of expressing their perceptions," Tucker said in the first edition of ARGUS, published in 1976.

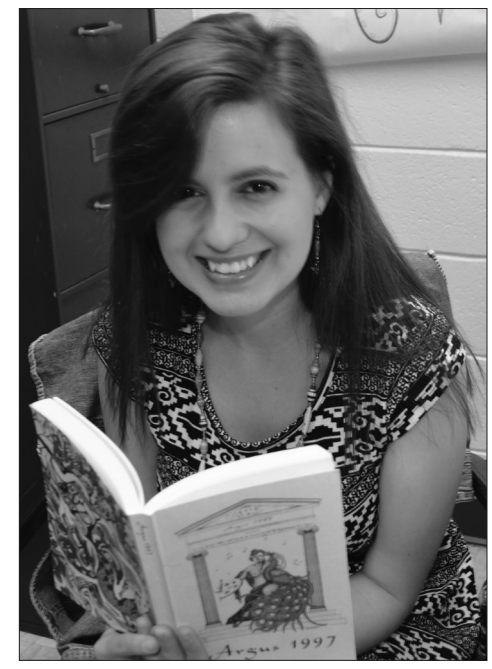
"Those whose expression is accomplished through the fine arts are featured in this, Northwestern's first multi-media magazine, ARGUS, with their contributions of poetry, prose, artwork, and photography."

Students can submit poetry, short stories, photography, artwork and creative non-fiction to the editors for a chance to win cash prizes and recognition.

Submissions should be posted to the Argus Section of Northwestern State University's webpage.

Previous editions of Argus can also be found on the website. The final date for submissions is Dec. 4.

Previous editions of ARGUS are accessible from the first edition to the current edition through the following link: http://archive.org/search.php?query=mediatype%3Atexts%20AND%20collection%3Anorthwesternstate%20AND%20subject%3A%22Literary%20Magazine%22&sort=-date



Maggie Harris reads an Argus edition from 1997. *Submitted by Julia Barry*



The Pom Line marched in the homecoming parade before performing at the football game. *Photo from NSU Pom Line Twitter*

Pom Line brings 'Purple Pizzazz' to campus

Megan Boyanton
Life Editor

Fall football games act as an unofficial showcase for school spirit groups. The cheerleaders throw stunts on the sidelines, interacting with the crowd, while the Demon Dazzlers — the university's dance line — performs its rehearsed routine.

The Spirit of Northwestern marching band commands attention at halftime with the Color Guard, who darts between musical instruments.

Armed with pom-poms and Demon pride, yet another group dances below the field lights — the Purple Pizzazz Pom Line.

Junior and captain Faith Stanfield explains the style behind their routines as hip-hop based.

"Pom is a mixture of dance and cheer without the stunting," Stanfield said. "Cheer mainly stunts and does cheers. Dazzlers do 'jazzy'-style dances."

Active throughout both football and basketball season, the 22 members of Pom Line compete for their spots and the resulting scholarships in annual auditions for the team. Stanfield stresses that her initial goals for the young women are perfecting both their dances and physical fitness, so they practice weekly.

Sophomore and co-captain Stephanie Parker aids in instructing the young women on performing as a synchronized unit.

"The girls have obtained a strong bond and a love for NSU," Stanfield said. "We committed ourselves to representing our university, and I feel the routines the girls have performed up to this point have supported that, as well as helped them grow as dancers."



Cooking with Vic

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Flourless Chocolate Pumpkin Cookies

-1 cup pumpkin puree OR canned pumpkin
-1 cup cashew butter
-¾ cup cocoa powder
-¼ cup maple syrup
-2 tsp cinnamon
-1/3 cup mini chocolate chips OR cacao nibs (for a sugar free option)

With autumn in full bloom — or fall, rather — stereotypical teenage girls everywhere are going crazy for their next pumpkin-flavored fixes. Just in time for Halloween, this recipe will satisfy any sweet-tooth cravings while being secretly healthy—and this is no trick!

In order to make this delectable treat, one must begin by preheating the oven to 350 degrees. Then, omitting the chocolate chips, mix all ingredients in a food processor or similar machine until the mixture is smooth.

Once the pumpkin-fudge blend is created, the chocolate chips can be easily added. The mixture can then be placed in the refrigerator for about 10 minutes to firm it for scooping.

After lining a baking sheet, the cookie "dough" can be scooped onto the sheet and placed in the oven. Only 12 short minutes later, the cookies will be done and ready to eat—after cooling off, of course. If you want them to harden further, the cookies can be stored in the fridge or freezer and last up to a week.

In less than 20 minutes, one can make a dessert that no one will want to share. In spite of the gooey, fudge-like texture, the healthy treat can also be served hot or cold! Fun fact: these cookies are not only tasty and easy to make, but they are also 100 percent vegan! With that being said, no animals were harmed in the making of this product.



Racheal Gaude uses herself as an example for approaching autumn college fashion. *Photo by Tyra Morrison*

Demon Style

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

Finding a balance between freezing classrooms and sweltering walks to CAPA is difficult, but what about fashionable, aesthetic balance? There are three ways I attempt to generate "stability" in outfits.

Amount of clothes:
Opposites attract. Heavy, oversized or flowy tops require smaller bottoms to counteract the weight of the top. Big tops paired with big bottoms often require a midsection focal point to create a sense of equilibrium. In this outfit, I use skinny jeans to combat this oversized blazer. The blazer would have made my head and feet appear smaller proportionally, so I used a knitted hat to satisfy the need for balance.

Body proportion:
Diagrams and articles explaining clothes that best compliment your body shape can help determine what looks good, but never limit yourself to those suggestions exclusively. Just like stabilizing the amount of clothes involved in your outfit, dress to your body's advantage to produce a stronger sense of aesthetic balance.

Seasonal change:
It's time to let go of summer footwear and embrace the sturdier shoes of winter, because coats/scarves/flannel do not match little sandals and white lace flats. When your closet is all on the same seasonal page, you'll find it much easier to balance individual outfits.

Homecoming season

Continued from front page

"Most years, some organizations get catty, but this year there's been a lot more panhellenic love," the senior said.

Alyson Walker, a Phi Mu senior, believes the focus on service has changed the competition for the better.

"I don't know if the tension has lessened because we got older or what, but we've given a lot more to service projects this year, and the competition is really good for that," Walker said.

However, competition is still competition. Phi Mu senior Morgan Byrd noted that although the focus of service has helped, the friction between organizations is still "cut throat."

"We like to think everyone is competition; we just try to be the best at everything," Michael Phelps, freshman member of Pi Kappa Alpha, said.

Acting Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life Shayne Creppel described the rivalries between many Greek groups as "friendly competition." He stressed that many organizations, not just Greek groups, participated in the games with gusto.

"The atmosphere has been great," Creppel said. "The students are enthusiastic about everything. Dr. Henderson has re-energized the campus and our students."

Reflections of NSU alum

Bill Thrash
Contributing Alumni

For my sophomore year of college, I decided to transfer from a really small East Texas junior college (Panola of Carthage) on a baseball scholarship to Northwestern. I really missed my friends, and there isn't much to do in Carthage.

Arriving at NSU, I soon learned that my assigned dorm room was in a girl's dorm. You see, my first name is Billy (not William) and my middle name is Lorain (don't ask, it's a family thing and not even my father could tell me where it comes from), so it's not really hard to see how whoever assigns rooms could make such a mistake, although I'm sure I checked male in the box on the form.

Let me explain how bad the girls had it in the late '60s. Back then, there were, of course, male and female dorms, but the rules for both sexes were not the same.

As males, we were allowed to come and go as we pleased with no one to fuss over what we did or how late we stayed out, as long as we did not cause a disturbance that might hinder someone trying to study or sleep.

The girls were not treated so well. After 6 or 7 p.m., a girl had to sign out of a logbook stating the time she was leaving, who she was going with and where she was going. Upon arriving back at the dorm, she had to sign in with the arrival time. And there was a curfew. Sunday through Friday nights, the girls could be out until 12 a.m. On Saturday nights, girls had to be back by 1 a.m.

If a girl wasn't back by five minutes after the hour, campus police were called. If a girl was 10 minutes late, her parents were called. Back then, that was not something you wanted to happen.

Homecoming Week Results

First place in banner:
General- President's Leadership Program
Fraternity- Tau Kappa Epsilon
Sorority- Alpha Omicron Pi

First place in 5K:
General- NSU Crew
Fraternity- Sigma Nu
Sorority- Sigma Sigma Sigma

First place in float:
General- Student Athletes
Fraternity- Kappa Sigma
Sorority- Sigma Sigma Sigma

First place in canned food drive:
General- Baptist Collegiate Ministry
Fraternity- Pi Kappa Alpha
Sorority- Phi Mu

Overall homecoming winner:
Sigma Sigma Sigma

First place in Lipsync:
General- President's Leadership Program
Fraternity- Tie for 1st: Kappa Sigma and Pi Kappa Alpha
Sorority- Sigma Sigma Sigma



Dark Woods

Dreams really do come true

Courtney Page
Contributing Writer

Natchitoches is a town that seemingly will never change. When word of a new haunt attraction began to spread, I almost didn't believe it. We cannot seem to get a Chick-fil-A in this town. How did we get a haunted house to set up shop here in Natty?

Dark Woods just appeared one day, almost out of nowhere, when they put up their billboard on the highway. I immediately looked up their Facebook and began to ask about positions available. Since this was almost a full year away from their opening date, I was told to inquire at a later date because they were still in the construction phase. Time went on, and I nearly forgot about them. I kept telling myself I would ask again, but I became very busy and never had a chance to.

Then in late August, I was sent by NSUTV to film one of their scare actor training days. It was here I met Jason and Mardy Summerlin, the owners of Dark Woods. I have never met people so loving and passionate about their line of work. Again, I took a chance and asked about positions available at the park, and within a minute I was hired.

It was then and there that I became an official make-up and special effects artist for Dark Woods. Side note — I have loved doing Halloween and horror makeup since my freshman year here at NSU; last year, I was the infamous Pyramid Head that roamed around campus the day of Halloween. After being hired, they brought the scare actors and myself out to Dark Woods to see exactly what we were getting ourselves into.

Honestly, my expectations were low; this being Natchitoches and not some larger city, I was expecting a smaller attraction. I was dead wrong. The front gate alone sets the stage for the immensity of Dark Woods. From there, guests encounter a concession stand containing addictively good fried donuts and a full bridge, built by hand by the Summerlins and various family and friends. The trail itself is a quarter of a mile, all outside with varying inclines. I would not recommend heels or sandals of any kind when walking through Dark Woods.

After showing such enthusiasm and determination to make the most out of this amazing opportunity, I was, again, hired on as the backstage manager for Dark Woods. I have never loved a job more. Not only do I have loads of fun doing the actors' makeup beforehand, I get a good bit of exercise by walking the trail all night, making sure everything is working just right.

There was a point on opening night where I was stationed at a spot on the trail to make sure guests were evenly spread out, and I was admiring the "fireflies" — a beautiful light show near the beginning of the haunt — and I just thought, "How did I get here? How was I this lucky?" I love Dark Woods and the Summerlins so much. I never would have imagined this dream of being a makeup artist at a real haunt coming true, but it has and I am so grateful.

Dark Woods opens at dark every Friday and Saturday in October, as well as Thursdays beginning on Oct. 22. As a disclaimer for those who have never been to a true haunt, expect a bit of a wait. Dark Woods is not like 13th Gate in Baton Rouge. We try to spread out the groups that enter the trail for the best experience possible.

VIP Tickets are available for $5 more online or $10 more at the gate. These tickets mean you will skip the line and your wait will be much shorter. I highly recommend visiting us this month for an exciting stroll through the woods, the Dark Woods.



On Oct. 22 students will recieve a $5 discount by presenting their student IDs upon admission. Dark Woods is a scream park new to Natchitoches this year. It attracts adults, students and children alike and continues to draw a steady crowd of curious NSU students looking to see what the buzz has been about. Tickets can be purchased online or at the gate. VIP tickets can also be purchased to decrease wait time. *Photo from NYP Facebook*



NSU dancers change venue, taking their show outside as they perform i dancers hope they inspired the public about what dance could be.

Modern i

Dancers break tradition

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

This fall, nature became the stage with the collaboration of the NSU Dance Company and Beau Jardin in downtown Natchitoches for the third annual performance of "Modern in Motion."

"Modern in Motion" has always been a "site-specific" dance production, meaning that the performance is designed for a specific location, without the boundaries of a traditional theater setting.

The previous two years, the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame was the "site" of "Modern in Motion." The dancers were the main exhibit, dancing on the crisp white curves of the modern architecture while audience members walked and observed, close enough to touch the moving art surrounding them.

"I've always been influenced by my environment," event choreographer Brett Garfinkel said. "I think it's nice to get people out of the original concept of thinking that a performance has to happen on a stage."

Garfinkel and his choreographic partner Kirsten Riehl decided to relocate their site-specific performance after feeling the artistic itch to find new inspiration. Although Beau Jardin has "a completely different set of qualities that inspires new movement," it is only a walk across the street from the Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame.

In order to keep the sponsorship of the Natchitoches Historic Development Commission, "Modern in Motion" had to remain in the downtown region of Natchitoches.

The performance was 50 minutes, beginning with an opening number by the



n the annual "Modern in Motion" exhibition. The choreographers and

Photo submitted by David West

n Motion

in outdoor performance

tap ensemble to warm up the crowd and followed by the NSU Dance Company dancing throughout the garden and among the audience members.

"We're going to be on the ledges and on the rocks, and there's a phase that we're actually doing in the creek," NSU Company dancer Logan Terrell said before the event. "We incorporate nature into the dance as if we're dancing for our surroundings rather than dancing in our surroundings."

However, dancing on creeks and on rocks created some new challenges for dancers who usually dance in a studio.

"The biggest obstacle with being outside in nature is not having control of the environment," Garfinkel said. "As far as bugs and water and weather, it creates a completely different set of challenges."

In addition to dancing in a new environment, the dancers had to learn how to maneuver around the audience without the separation between a stage and an arena.

"You don't know if the audience is going to get in the way until you do it," Terrell said. "But it's one of my favorite performances because instead of just being in front of an audience, you're feeling the audience's vibes that they're giving you."

Although "Modern in Motion" initially began with the purpose to create a dance performance opportunity for dance concentrations in the first semester, Garfinkel and Riehl hope that the performances inspire the entire community.

"My goal is to open up [the audience] to what dance could be and what dance is," Garfinkel said.

Riehl said she hopes the audience was able to see the students' commitment and love of the art form and for the dancers to be able to share that with the community.

Ring-a-Ding-Ding they jam and swing: NSU jazz orchestra kicks-off season with first performance

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

The University Jazz Orchestra gave an hour-long performance Oct. 14 with seven songs and only four weeks of practice.

The audience gave a look of surprise when Director Galindo Rodriguez, associate professor of trumpet, announced the news after the orchestra's fifth song. Due to a four-week delay and some missing music, he said he had to compile a whole new repertoire of music to perform that evening.

This was a baffling piece of information for the audience to comprehend, not because of the missing music or lack of practice time, but because the handicap went unnoticed during the first half of the concert.

"That was a lot of music to prepare in a short amount of time," Jeremy Vaughn, sophomore hospitality management and tourism major, said. "It still sounded really good for how much practice they had."

Galindo said they "cut it close" with this first concert, but thinks his musicians gave an exciting performance none-the-less. Also, two of the orchestra's strengths are their ability to read music correctly the first time and give impromptu solos.

He went on to say that it is common to have two or three soloists in the orchestra, but this year he has an "unusual" amount. Almost everyone can solo. It's a rare and beneficial quality that excites him for future performances.

One soloist, freshman baritone saxophone player Josh Henry, started the fifth song of his first concert: "Festival Time in Ville." He introduced the melody and exchanged it with the rest of the band.

Henry described the experience as "incredible."

"It was a lot of fun," Henry said. "I love performing."

When a survey of eight audience members was taken asking their favorite song of the evening, half said they enjoyed the fifth song because of the upbeat melody and the multitude of soloists.

The second half of the audience said they enjoyed the fourth song, "It's a Heavy Town." Unlike the previous songs, this piece was slow, melodic and featured a Japanese exchange student, Kazue Seo, as a flugelhorn soloist.

Seo rejected the idea that she led the band throughout the piece, saying that it was a team effort. The entire band played a part in creating the calm, bluesy atmosphere.

"We worked together," Seo said. "This band is great."

The jazz orchestra will perform their next concert Nov. 11.



NSU jazz orchestra performs first concert of the season. Saxaphonist Ian Cassidy performed a short sweet solo. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Raven Symone got it wrong

An-gel Samuel
Contributing Writer



Symone caused controversy after drastic statements. *Photo from Creative Commons*

On Oct. 8, Raven Symone made drastic statements about discrimination while hosting "The View" along with her co-hosts.

While watching a viral video on 60 of the most "ghetto names," Symone made some hurtful remarks that upset a lot of the viewers. The topic was a study about Americans making racial assumptions solely based on a person's name.

"Just to bring it back, can we take back 'racist' and say 'discriminatory' because I think that is a better word," Symone said. "And I am very discriminatory against words like the ones they were saying in those names. I'm not about to hire you if your name is Watermelondrea."

Watermelondrea is actually a made up character played on Youtube by a guy named Tre Melvin. His Youtube channel is called "ThisIsaCommentary." He made up this character a few years back strictly for comedic purposes. He made a video response recording his reaction titled "Dear Ms. Symone."

I was completely shocked. I know we all remember that episode of "That's So Raven" when she was being discriminated against by the owner of a store. She had of vision of the woman saying, "Truth is I don't hire black people."

Even though it was "just an episode," it was an episode people could relate to, and in an interview shortly after the episode aired Raven said she would never treat anyone this way. Hypocrisy at its best.

Personally I believe that Raven went about this situation incorrectly. A person should not be turned down from a job because of his/her name. As people, we cannot help the names that we are given. Some names have meanings behind them or could be names passed down from generations. To be judged on this is not doing anyone justice.

As a childhood idol, I believe Raven could have voiced her opinion better than how she did. A lot of her fans were leaving harsh comments under her Instagram page saying how wrong they felt she was and how they cannot look at her the same way.

This situation could have been avoided. You just have to choose your words carefully.

Reasons to go vegan: Culture shock

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Many people think I'm crazy for going vegan. Others think I'm inspiring, while some are completely indifferent.

One question I get asked a lot: "Why?"

Why does anyone do anything? Forgive me for being ambiguous, but have you ever considered why you eat meat—other than the fact that it tastes good?

The simple answer: culture.

We have been hardwired—or brainwashed as some would argue—to think of certain animals as food and others as pets, to believe that all protein comes from meat and that vegetables are a "side" item rather than a main course.

Let's pretend you grew up in a vegan home, meaning your parents raised you with a vegan lifestyle—a trend becoming more common today. Do you believe your views about animal products would be different?

Perhaps to some, veganism is seen as "extreme;" however, being someone who used to think the same way, I find this lifestyle change to be less extreme than that of an animal-based diet.

Allow me to explain with a look into a typical non-vegan meal plan:

- Breakfast: cereal with milk
- Lunch: a turkey sandwich with some chips
- Snack: some Cheez-Its
- Dinner: grilled chicken with green beans and loaded baked potato

If you have never considered the dependence you have on the animal industry, that gives you a pretty good idea.

Down every street, around every corner and in every grocery store, animal products are the main event.

We all know how beneficial fruits and vegetables are to a diet, so let go of the hold that meat has on you, and open your mind to the idea that your diet could be a product of your cultural surroundings.

Be aware, and happy eating!



Vote #65 Jackson Jones for Sheriff of Natchitoches

Special Bulletin…All people matter, it's time for a change.

I am requesting Sheriff Vic to "Stand down. It's Over."

- Injustice-Inmate Trenton Law arrested (Court Docket #C9561A) by Sheriff Vic officers for 2nd Degree Murder and T. Law served over 16 Months of jail time…the court ruled "not guilty" September 2006. T Law lost his job, family and got no compensation…Sheriff Vic is guilty of failing to supervise his workers!!! Give me a change-Vote #65.
- The Metoyer family arrest was unlawful in August of 2015.

"Because an injustice anywhere, is an injustice everywhere."

- I need NSU student vote support.

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How to date in college:
A guide to playing the field

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

Dating in college requires advanced detective skills these days. Singles must be sleuths, adept at deciphering the code that is the ambiguous and sub-text-laden communication of young adults. The required list of detective skills includes: gathering subtle (almost invisible) hints, deciphering text messages down to the punctuation and frequency of response and the ability to detect "bull crap" from a mile away.

The detective must also remain incognito. To solve a mystery, you have to be a mystery yourself, answering text messages with "k" and hiding under the façade of "too cool to care." You must be like Tom Cruise in every movie he has ever been in, all nonchalance with a suave haircut. There's only one rule in the dating game: whoever cares less, wins. In this step-by-step guide, you will learn how to be the person that always cares less, and therefore "wins" at something that should have nothing to do with winning or losing.

The first step is realizing that the word "dating" implies some sort of interest in someone, so it is best to remain coy about it. Instead of being upfront like a normal person, ask someone if they want to "hang." Or even better, ask, "Hey, would like you to catch a glimpse of my face sometime?" Showing anything other than total apathy for human connection is dating suicide.

Second, never reveal your true intentions and never label the relationship, no matter the duration of your "thing." You want to string them along for as long as possible because you never know when you'll need a confidence boost. If they seem concerned about your intentions, accuse them of being "too intense" and "acting crazy." This will cause them to question themselves, and therefore will give you more time to avoid confrontation.

Third, leave everything open-ended. Telling someone you're not interested in a future relationship is just not necessary. I would suggest a technique called "ghosting," which is achieved by suddenly ceasing all communication with the person you wish to break things off with. Your actions are justified because, if you followed rule #2, you were never officially dating. You don't have to be honest or treat someone with respect unless you have a real relationship.

Lastly, assert your power by introducing yourself to your "ghosting" victims as if you've never met before. This will help you avoid awkward situations in the future by persuading the victim that the relationship was entirely made up in his or her head and you actually have no idea what's going on.

Sometimes a fun little game of hot and cold works wonders to display your dominance. Shower your minion with adoration and compliments for a few days, and then suddenly tell them you just "aren't feeling it." Hopefully, this will result in the weakling groveling for your affection, thus making you feel really special.

Remember, never reveal your authentic self. Treat your insignificant others like they are Harry Potter and you are Voldemort, and they must find and destroy all your horcruxes to figure out what's going on. You are the only person that matters, and it is imperative that your behavior reflects that.

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Student says NSU Homecoming should take a cue from Cady Heron in "Mean Girls." *Photo from Creative Commons*

Lesson from Mean Girls

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

When Cady Heron was awarded the title of Spring Fling Queen in "Mean Girls" she gave a small piece of her crown to everybody—and that's what the NSU Homecoming Court tradition should start doing too.

What is the meaning of homecoming court? Although NSU Homecoming Court isn't anywhere near the superficial popularity contest of the Spring Fling in Mean Girls, it still remains exclusive to a certain population of students on campus.

Out of the 22 members of the homecoming court, 19 are involved in Greek Life, 10 are involved in SAB or SGA, 10 are Freshman Connectors, and eight are alumni of the Presidential Leadership Program. There are over 100 Recognized Student Organizations and clubs on campus, but the majority of the Homecoming Court is involved in Greek life and leadership organizations, thus failing to represent the majority of the student body.

Why is this a problem, you ask? Don't these students who are heavily involved in leadership opportunities and campus life deserve to be on the homecoming court? Every single student on the homecoming court deserves to be recognized for academic achievements and campus involvement. But because this tradition caters to a certain population of the university, it doesn't have any sentimental value for students who aren't involved in these activities.

Baylor University was one of the first universities to set the example that would begin the American homecoming phenomenon of the 1920s, next in popularity after flappers and jazz music, of course. In 1909, Baylor University started "Good Will Week," in which alumni were invited to return to their Alma Mater to "renew former associations and friendships and catch the Baylor Spirit again." Basically, the whole homecoming shindig began to inspire school spirit during the college years and keep that school spirit alive long enough to inspire donations from alumni after their college degrees have rendered them a successful career with prestige and riches.

Although I am a non-Greek independent type, I am still heavily involved on campus, as are many other students. If homecoming is really about celebration, camaraderie and all the sweet cash money from alumni, then the diversity of students should be represented on the homecoming court. More importantly, tradition should bring people together. What is the value of continuing a tradition that isn't inclusive and relevant for all students?

Here is my proposition for NSU: keep the traditions, but make them better. Changing the selection process to encourage a variety of students will not only eliminate any kind of popularity contest, but it will accurately represent the student body and show that NSU values each and every one of its students. Do what Cady Heron did: let everyone be royals.

Demons deemed homecoming heroes

Llorens helped lead team to 48-35 victory





(Top) Defensive lineman Darrien Batiste swallowed Cardinals running back. He led the team that night with 1.5 tackles for loss. (Right) Running back Llorens scampered away from Cardinals defenders. He led the offense with two rushing touchdowns. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Reginald Williams
Sauce Reporter

Though the 2015 season has been one to forget so far, the Demons took the field Saturday to receive their first win at no better time than homecoming in a 48-35 victory over the Lamar Cardinals in Turpin Stadium.

The Demons came out with a first half offensive flurry scoring three touchdowns with two on the ground by running backs senior Daniel Taylor and junior De'Mard Llorens. Following was a 22-yard strike from senior quarterback Stephen Rivers to junior speedster Shakeir Ryan for another Demon score.

The first quarter offensive showcase gave NSU a great amount of momentum that was almost derailed by an early second quarter score by Lamar's running back Kade Harrington, who took it 79-yards for a score after a critical fumble by the Demons the Cardinals recovered. A pair of touchdowns by both NSU and Lamar made the score 31-14 at halftime.

The running game, which has been one of the few bright spots for the Demons this season, was the story of the game against the Cardinals. Llorens had his best game of the season in front of his hometown fans leading all Demon running backs with 20 carries for 105 yards, adding two touchdowns to cap his performance.

"I work hard in practice," Llorens said when asked about his season high output. "I guess what you put in is what you get out."

A 95-yard fumble recovery for a touchdown by junior safety Adam Jones gave the Demons a 41-21 lead going into the fourth quarter. Everything seemed to be going right for NSU even with the Demon defense giving up 300 rushing yards and five rushing touchdowns to the Cardinals. Even with the NSU run defense being virtually nonexistent, that wasn't enough to get the job done for Lamar.

With a win on the board, the Demons hopefully can use that as a catapult to get their season turned around.

"This sets the tone for the rest of the season," Llorens said.

NSU now sets its sights on in-state conference rival McNeese State on Oct. 24 in Lake Charles.

Vote #65 Jackson Jones for sherif of Natchitoches Parish, La. Special bulletin... Sherif Vic rethink your survival or position of Saturday September 19, 2015 Citizens Communition meeting. I (Jackson Jones) is requesting "Sherif Vic to stand down it is over!!! guilty of failure to supervise his workers, on the Metoyerfamily arrest in August 2015 and many more allegations of misconduct, illegal arrest, illegal search and seizure, for over 12 years time period... xxx I need campaign contribution and I need the money right now!!! Send all donations to: P.O. Box 1325, Natchitoches, La 71458. Phone 3186521325.



As your new sherif, Jackson Jones brings stronger supervision leadership skills than Sherif Vic and can build community trust with the sherif office. Give me a chance vote #65 "Because an injustice anywhere, is an injustice everywhere"...

Paid for by Jackson Jones

Postseason play still a question for soccer team

Ben Wellman
Sports Writer

Three weekend goals by senior playmaker Cassandra Briscoe were enough for one game, but not for two.

The Lady Demon soccer team welcomed Texas A&M – Corpus Christi and Houston Baptist to Natchitoches on Oct. 16 and Oct. 18, respectively, defeating the Islanders 4-0 and losing to the Huskies 3-1. The results bring their overall record to 5-8-3 and their Southland record to 2-4-2.

Beginning with the Oct. 16 game, the Lady Demons welcomed the Islanders to town in the afternoon before the homecoming parade and pep rally. The home side had their own homecoming victory, dominating the Islanders to a 4-0 victory.

The scoring began in the 12th minute, when Briscoe played a ball to an Esdeina Gonzalez streaking down the right flank. After dribbling past a few defenders, Gonzalez was able to shoot past the Islanders' keeper to the opposite corner of the goal to give the home side a lead they wouldn't relinquish.

Right before halftime, Briscoe was in the mix again. The ball was played to her by freshman attacker Jasmine Juarez, and from inside the box Briscoe curled the ball beautifully out of the reach of the Islanders' keeper to give the home side a 2-0 lead going into the half.

It only took the Lady Demons 4 minutes into the second half to add to their tally. Gonzalez got into the box and was able to sneak the ball to junior midfielder Camila Ardilla. Ardilla was able to take a touch then sneak the ball past the onrushing Islanders' keeper to bring the Lady Demons' tally to 3.

Twenty minutes later, the scoring would be complete. Freshman attacker Brittany Caserma, who was a thorn in the Islanders' side all game, ran the ball into the box from the left flank, and a defender brought her down for a penalty kick. The defender was shown a yellow card, and Briscoe buried the penalty kick for her second goal of the day and a 4-0 Lady Demons' victory.

Following Briscoe's penalty goal, several freshmen and reserves were subbed in, and a total of 25 players got playing time in this victory.

"Our players worked hard, we're so happy for them today, and we got some great goals," Head Coach George van Linder said. "That's a good team that we got some nice goals on today. The million-dollar question is what the difference was today compared to past games, and even though we're really not sure, these girls just continue to work."

Two days later, the Lady Demons were hoping the momentum from this game and the overtime victory over Sam Houston would carry over against Houston Baptist. Despite a promising first half, the visitors escaped with a 3-1 victory.

The Lady Demons scored their goal as early as 5 minutes in. Gonzalez ran onto a ball from the right flank, and her shot was parried away by the Huskies' goalkeeper, but only as far as Briscoe. Briscoe then finished to the middle of the goal for her third goal of the weekend and a lead the Lady Demons would hold on to through halftime.

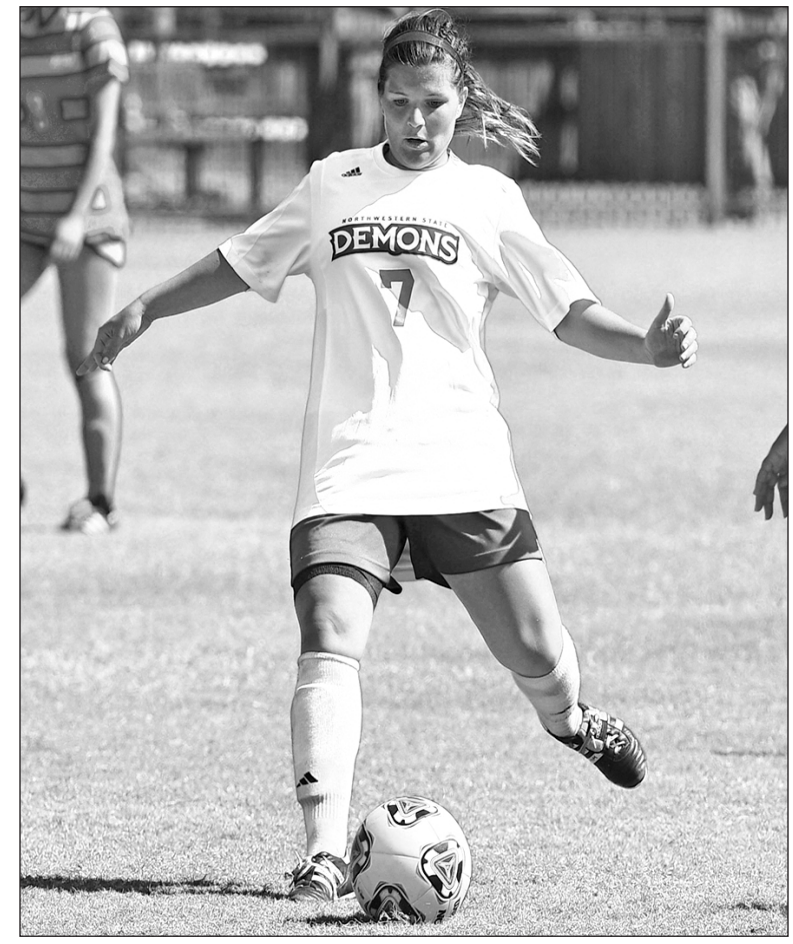
The second half was fairly balanced, but within 15 minutes, the visitors were able to equalize. Huskies attacker Sabriah Spencer was able to send a low cross towards attacker Jessa LeBlanc. Lady Demon goalkeeper Alex Latham, who played all 180 minutes this weekend instead of splitting time with the injured Brooke Bourbonais, was sent to the side, and LeBlanc finished to the center of the goal.

With less than ten minutes before an apparent overtime session, the visitors were able to break the deadlock. LeBlanc played provider to Spencer this time, with LeBlanc tapping the ball from the center of the box to a waiting Spencer at the near post. Spencer was able to sneak the ball past Latham to give the away side a heartbreaking lead.

The visitors put the final nail in the coffin five minutes later. A defensive miscue by the Lady Demons left Huskies attacker Gabby Rodriguez in an open fast break towards Latham. Rodriguez was able to finish, and the visitors escaped Natchitoches with a 3-1 victory.

"We got a little bit away from our game plan in the second half, and the momentum built in HBU's favor," van Linder said. "We couldn't settle in and play our style."

The Lady Demons have three games remaining on their regular season schedule in their pursuit of the Southland Conference tournament. They will travel to Nicholls and Southeastern on Oct. 23 and 25, respectively, before returning home for their season finale on Oct. 30 when they welcome Central Arkansas for a 7 p.m. finisher.



Senior Cassandra Briscoe looked steadily as she passed her teammate the ball. Over the weekend, she accounted for three total goals for her team. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Tennis duo wins double title

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

NSU tennis team visited Auburn this past weekend to compete in the UTSA/ITA Southern Regionals in what would be their last matches of the fall season.

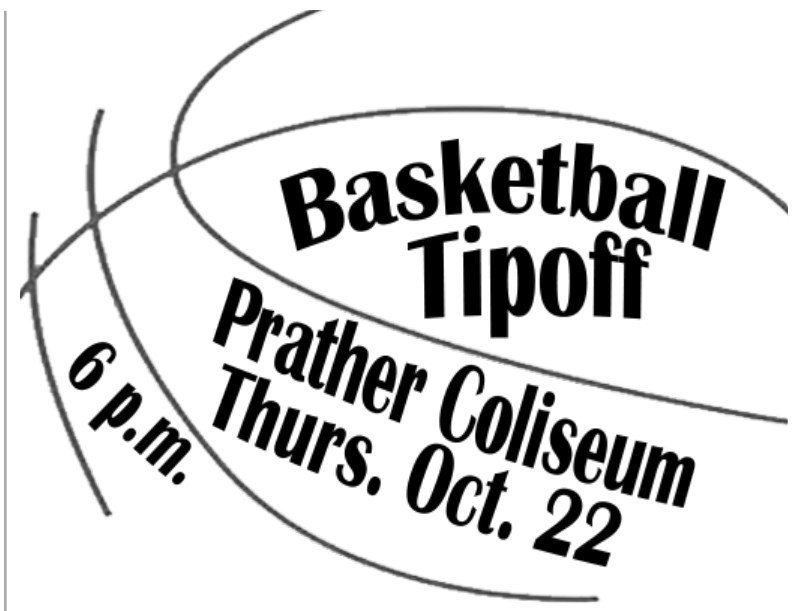
Lady Demons Polina Ivanova and Iryna Vardanian of the No. 2 doubles team made it to the championship of the B consolation doubles draw, which took place Sunday. The duo dominated a Samford squad to claim the doubles title, 8-0.

Throughout their journey to the title, Ivanova and Vardanian won twice Saturday morning in the B doubles consolation draw. They prevailed 8-4 in the quarterfinal round over Lisa Ferrauti and Tereza Melicharkova of Troy, then posted a close 8-6 win over Caroline Kelly and Louise Ronaldson of Mississippi State.

Natalya Krutova suffered a tough three-set loss to LSU's Skylar Kuykendall in the round of 16 of the A draw singles that played Saturday. Earlier that day, she teamed up with Polina Mutel in A consolation draw doubles match as they lost 8-6 against a duo from Alabama-Birmingham.

Another match that took place Saturday was Vardanian, as she took a 6-4 and 6-3 draw to Tulane's Sofia Krutz in singles B consolation.

The Lady Demons will start their 2016 season as they are set to compete in the Florida Golf Coast University Invitation in Fort Myers, Fla., from Jan. 16-19.



NSU's Homecoming Games



Brittany McConathy of Stonewall and Matthew Whitaker of Winnfield were selected as queen and king of the 2015 Homecoming Honor Court at Northwestern State University. McConathy and Whitaker are part of a 22-member honor court, which participated in activities during Homecoming Week at NSU and were presented at halftime of the homecoming game against Lamar on Saturday, Oct. 17. The court also includes Brooke Anderson, Charles Anderson, Sha'Destiny Blackshire, Anthony Cannata, Sharonda Collins, Brian Cook, Myranda Degraw, Sarah Gandy, Jamarius Williams, Terrell Gorham, Chantasia Grasty, Angel Greer, Emilie King, Demetri Hill, Constance Johnson, Christopher Juneau, John Pearce, Anthony Pham and Beau Russell.
Photo by Natchitoches Parish Journal







Students enjoyed various events throughout the week, including the bonfire, parade and tailgate (all pictured). Other events included the Homecoming Kickoff Party, 5K Glow Run, a showing of Mockingjay Part 1 and Lipsync.
Photos by Tyra Morrison and Emilee Self



New graduation robes create problems
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Potential dilemmas Halloween cause women
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Demon basketball prepares for upcoming season
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THE CURRENT SAUCE

‘The journey’s never over’: New perspective after cancer diagnosis

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

Yonna Pasch prided herself on being a healthy person; she ate right, exercised, didn’t smoke or drink excessively. She found the lump by doing a self-examination after her son bumped her and she felt unusual pain.

In December 2011, she was 33 years old, waiting by herself in her home for the results – not knowing how they would change her life. Her doctor called and told her what they found was Stage 3 cancer.

With no family, this breast cancer in her Yonna accept- came as a shock, but new challenge. ed her cancer as a to have a positive She was fortunate process. She refers to and empowering “A gift that I don’t want to her cancer as a gift, that I was very much appre- gift anyone. But a gift it has changed my perspective ciative of receiving because to give back to the community. It on people in general on ways changed my perspective on how I’m living my life.”

“Through this journey I have learned that every life is precious. Regardless if you love them or hate them, and if you wish they would do this and you wish they would do that. In the end we all are human and we all make mistakes. And it’s regardless if we support different views.”

She was surrounded by the love and support of the Natchitoches community. Her husband Alan gave her a hope box the Christmas of 2011, soon after she was diagnosed, with messages from friends, family, collegues, students, and others.

Continues on page 7





‘Yelling, wigs, heels and lingerie’

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

“Lips! Lips! Lips!” The annual demand directed towards the cast from the audience starts The Rocky Horror Picture Show.

Since 2007, cult classic The Rocky Horror Picture Show has been a Halloween tradition on Northwestern State’s campus. This production gives students opportunities to audition for parts in the shadow cast. The experiences of both viewing and performing in the show are unique, maintaining high energy, allowing the performers to express themselves without judgement and promoting self-acceptance and confidence within the cast. During the rehearsals, performers must step out of their comfort zones and allow themselves to grow. The performance has had an impact on students and the campus alike and continues to amaze.

Senior Tyler Price is co-directing this year’s production of The Rocky Horror Picture Show with senior Leonard Harris. Price stated that most of the cast is made up of freshmen, but explained that the performers are “committed and fearless.”

“They took the challenge head on and have been awesome to work with,” Harris said. Price continued to state how important the show is to him.

“Rocky means the world to me because it represents individuality,” he said.

“We don’t question the wacky things. We just accept them and I believe that we should view people in that same way. Everyone should be able to openly express themselves as long as it doesn’t hurt anyone else.”

Price encourages students through his own personal experiences.

“I love and continue to support this Theatrical Experience because it inspires people in more ways than one,” he said.

“I challenge everyone to really listen to the lyrics and live in them.”

Harris wanted to try something new with their production, while maintaining tradition.

“Most productions of Rocky have always used the movie as the centerpiece of the show, but I found that to be distracting from the performers busting their butts in heels,” he said.

“We wanted to showcase the cast and really give people the show worth their money, instead of paying to a movie. The show will still keep the tradition of lip sync, but will still feature live singing and dancing. Clips of the movie will be used throughout the show.”

The chosen theme is the decade of the 80s.

Harris reflected upon his Rocky Horror experience.

“I performed in Rocky as a freshman here and played Frank-N-Furter the next year,” he said.

“I think the most rewarding thing for me in this process are the bonds you make along the way. I love my cast. I couldn’t have asked for a better group of people to share my first job as a director with.”

Continues on page 5

Vitter v. Edwards in run-off

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

The Louisiana gubernatorial election, held on Saturday, Oct. 24, did not result in a clear win for any candidate for governor.

Despite an almost 20 percent lead on Republican candidate David Vitter, John Bel Edwards will face the senator in a runoff election on Nov. 21.

Many Louisianans are frustrated with the idea of a runoff due to the fact that Sen. Vitter and State rep. Edwards were not close in the polls.

Edwards, a Democratic candidate, managed to hold about 40 percent of the vote. Vitter only obtained roughly 23 percent of the vote, and is still able to count as a threat to Edwards.

However, Louisiana's election system states that if no candidate reaches 50 percent of the vote, then the two candidates with the most votes will face a runoff, no matter the difference in percentage.

With Louisiana being a red state, Edwards' climb in the polls is a unique one. His popularity stems from multiple sources, but the most popular aspect Edwards carries in his campaign is that he differs from Sen. Vitter.

Along with Edwards' disagreements with Sen. Vitter, Republican competitors launched an "Anybody but Vitter" campaign to help increase their votes in the original election.

This split the vote massively, dropping Sen. Vitter's numbers. Now, with the runoff between one Democratic and one Republican candidate, Vitter's polls may rise again. Vitter is still surrounded by many controversies throughout this run-off election.

This includes his multiple prostitution scandals and the recent arrest of his alleged private investigator, who was caught illegally recording a conversation between Sheriff Newell Normand and other officials.

Edwards does not carry a clean slate either, though. His critics warn that Edwards will govern as the Barack Obama of the state of Louisiana.

Additionally, they fault him for treating charter schools poorly in the past with his legislation, House Bill 101.

With both gubernatorial candidates facing challenges in the runoff election on Nov. 21, the outcome is hard to predict.

Senator David Vitter



Republican Candidate

Rep. John Bel Edwards



Democratic Candidate

Left: photo from Creative Commons; right: photo from Twitter profile



Several of the satellites can be found outside of Kyser Hall. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Ghost rooms in Kyser Hall

Rhiannon Dean
Contributing Writer

Walk through the hallways of Kyser at night and students may hear the defunct satellites, witness random blinking lights, spot shadows or listen to out-of-place televisions playing. That would be the manager and executive director of NSU TV, David Antilley, fooling around with the equipment.

The room is approximately 5'×5', according to Vice Provost and Dean Steven Horton, Ph.D. It is not haunted and is still actively being used.

"I've been here since 1992 and I work in the room all the time," Antilley said. "I've never seen any ghosts." The only intruder that he has seen was a single squirrel. NSU TV records the school's athletics, graduation, convocation and other campus-wide events. While the majority of these recordings are not being viewed on television screens by audiences, NSU TV airs its programs on YouTube America. Otherwise, NSU TV can be found on channel 22 on-campus, channel 8 specifically in both University Place lobbies and clubhouses and Channel 25 at other locations in Natchitoches. The satellite room has two entries: one through the anthropology room and the other from the outside, near the satellites. Metal bars on the outside door protect $500,000 worth of equipment behind it.

Why are the satellites still there? Antilley thinks it would cost too much to have them removed. Although it's an eyesore, it's also a sort of landmark students can use to label their location.The satellites- no longer in operation- were used in the 1990s for satellite education classes. NSU would film its own educational program, called "Science Out of This World," which was aimed at 5th and 6th-graders throughout Louisiana.

Student Media Coordinator Daniel Thiels tates that Kyser has many "ghost rooms," which are basically rooms that are not utilized properly. However, investigation proves that the satellite equipment room is not one of them.

Student Government Association Monday meeting updates

Meeting 10/12/15

- Pictures are being put up in the purple line hallways.
- A bill will be voted on next week to decide if the student body will gain the ability of easy access to how the student fees are spent.
- The issue of organizations putting flyers on cars was discussed. While it is not allowed, the remaining obstacle is the difficulty in regulation.
- Students are requesting more architecture on campus to beautify NSU.
- The meeting ran quickly because everyone is swept up in homecoming obligations.
- Good luck was wished to all students participating in the "Homecoming Games."

Meeting 10/19/15

- Alumni Association Board met with SGA President Matthew Whitaker and expressed the desire to keep undergraduates connected to the graduates of NSU in order to help them find jobs when they graduate. A program is in the works.
- A "traditions council" is a program PLP is to establishing to help freshmen learn the traditions of NSU, like the fight song and Alma Mater.
- SGA will host a Halloweek movie night and play the 1984 version of "Nightmare on Elm Street."The event will be held Tuesday, Oct. 27, at 8 p.m.
- There is a debate being planned on the topic of police militarization. Speakers will be brought in to discuss the different sides of the issue. The date is up in the air, but this could possibly take place in mid-November.
- SGA is trying to get a working printer in every lab on campus.
- TVs might be coming to the cafeteria to provide RSO information to students.
- The Transparency Bill was approved at this meeting. This will provide all students access on where their student fee money is going and how it is being spent. The information will be posted on OrgSync.
- Senators are looking into signs for the library entrances that deem which way to enter and exit, along with signs that differentiate between commuting, faculty/staff and resident parking.

Revamped graduation robes bring student struggles to light

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

On Oct. 22, Student Messenger delivered an announcement from Herff Jones stating that the ordering of graduation gear began.

Students with hand-me-down robes did not pay much attention to this news until they glanced at the picture of the cap and gown newly draped in purple colors and the white columns of NSU. To their surprise, the robes for graduation are different this year.

Beginning with the December graduates, the new NSU-specific robes are to be used for the university graduation ceremony, held at the Natchitoches campus.

The change in style came unexpectedly for most students and caused a problem for those who had already obtained the traditional black robes.

Senior Emily Deen expressed concern over the late notice about this change.

"I had the benefit of getting the black gown from a previous senior, so I had already gotten it tailored and had senior pictures taken with the now-retired gowns," Deen said.

The history major believes that the administration should have notified the students before making the switch.

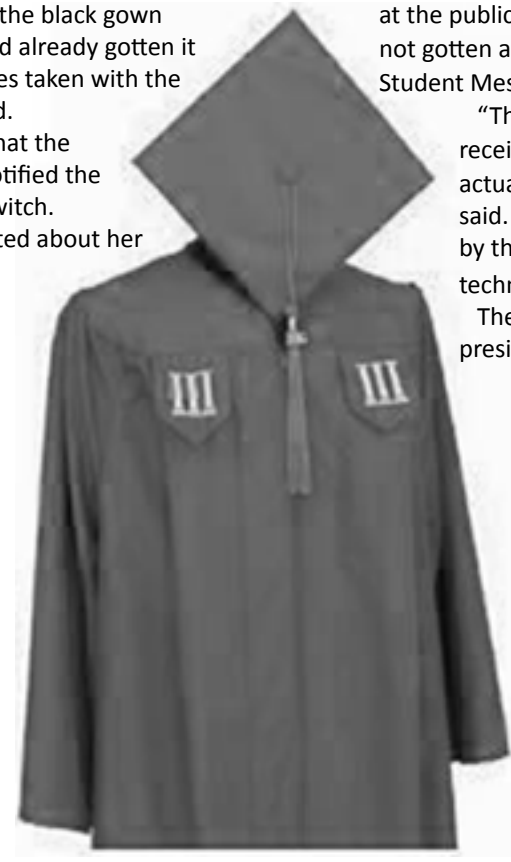
Senior Anitria Lawrence posted about her issues with the new robes on the Northwestern State Student Concerns Page.

"To my knowledge and apparently the knowledge of other students, SGA didn't make the possible change of the gowns public," Lawrence said. "I feel if students had been aware of the change there would not be an issue."

However, president of SGA, Matthew Whitaker, explained that SGA did not take part in the decision either.

According to the psychology major, administration handled the creation of the new cap and gown attire.

Changing the graduation attire was something Whitaker planned to look into at the public SGA meetings, but he had not gotten around to it by the time the Student Messenger came out.



Graduating seniors can begin ordering the gowns, colored in the traditional purple and white, on Wednesday, Oct. 28. *Submitted Photo*

"The email that everyone received was the first time I actually saw it myself," Whitaker said. "The robes are controlled by the administrators, so it can't technically go to a student vote."

The new design is what the SGA president would have voted on regardless. According to Whitaker, the change came to NSU in the spirit of Dr. Henderson's Investiture, where the presentation of new president's robes occurred.

Whitaker noted that with the new designs and renovations on campus, NSU is growing in its originality.

"The new robes are basically to show that our campus is revamping our old ways and upgrading aesthetically," Whitaker said. "I think it was fitting that if Dr. Henderson got his robes changed, the student body would follow suit."

This does not change the student concerns about pricing. The modernized robes cost roughly $20 more than the traditional black attire.

Whitaker explained that he plans to discuss with the administration a return policy for students who have already purchased the old robes, along with a possible rental policy for those who cannot afford new caps and gowns.

Emily Deen labeled the conflict involving the new robes a learning experience.

"There will always be people against changes," Deen said. "Even had this been done with the knowledge of the graduating seniors, some would love the design while others would go against it . . . Hopefully this serves to remind us that changes to tradition should be made public before implemented."

Cancer research fundraiser started in memory of Regan Kauf

Damian Glover
PR/Online Editor

On June 24, 16-year-old Regan Kauf was diagnosed with leukemia. On Oct. 18, she passed away from medical complications.

Regan Kauf was not just a victim of the blood cancer that takes over lives, but she was also the daughter of Northwestern State University's Steve Kauf.

Steve Kauf is known to many as the general manager of Sodexo, the university's official dining services provider.

When asked what he would like the world to know about his daughter, he reflected on two of her prominent traits: her strength and caring personality.

Regan Kauf's obituary describes her as someone who loved performing on-stage and who had the time of her life in the spring musical at Telstar High School.

"For a 16-year-old she was quite an old soul," her father said.

"She would always be more concerned about the other kids at the hospital and would try to ease their pain and help them . . . That is why we want to help find a cure - we know Regan would want to help all those little ones. She wanted to be a doctor before all this, but changed to wanting to be a nurse because she saw how they did all the caring for people and that was what Regan wanted - to take care and help people."

Regan's mother, Kristie, began a fundraising project with Steve in their daughter's memory.

The GoFundMe account is entitled, "Team Regan," and has a total of 926 shares.

The main goal is to raise money for cancer research.

"In lieu of flowers we would like to take donations and give them to Regan's oncologist for leukemia research to help find a cure so another young person doesn't have to battlefor her life," the description online said.

Her parents have also launched a Facebook page in her honor, "Team Regan," where loved ones have posted memories.

The Office of Student Activities and Organizations— along with the service learning committee of the Student Activities Board— has decided to start a campaign to help the Kaufs' cause and eventually reach their established goal of $10000.

"Her mother asked her if she was mad that she had this disease and she told her no - she could handle it, but the little kids had no idea what they were in for and she felt bad for them." —*Steve Kauf*



So far, 74 donors have contributed to the cause, culminating $5650 for "Team Regan." *Submitted photo*

NSU alumnus and musician to play Halloween show



Chris Watts' live performance of his 'Deep South Americana' music will be free. *Photo by Stephanie Kopel*

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

Looking for a way to spend Halloween this year in the uneventful town of Natchitoches, LA? Come to the Pioneer Pub at 10 p.m. for a live concert from recording artist and NSU alumnus, Chris Watts.

This will be Watts' first show in Natchitoches since graduating in 2010 and moving to Nashville, Tn. His style can be described as "Deep South Americana" and his songs are what he jokingly calls "sad-bastard songs." While not all of his songs are sad, Watts approaches songwriting with the goal of portraying real life. His upcoming album, "The God's Own Truth," will feature a song about his real-life experience during Hurricane Katrina.

"I feel like a lot of music of now is kind of just about partying," Watts said. "It's like everything is this 24/7 never-ending party. Life's not really like that. People struggle sometimes and that's one of the things we've lost from music, is being able to focus on that for people to relate to."

Watts was shot in the Mercedes-Benz Superdome during Hurricane Katrina while on-duty for the National Guard. At the time, he was attending the University of New Orleans for film school. The damage caused by Hurricane Katrina forced Watts to take his studies back to NSU in 2006. At Northwestern State, Watts double-majored in journalism and political science with a goal in mind: writing a book about the first few weeks of Hurricane Katrina, as told from the perspective of the first responders.

"Sitting in the Superdome while Katrina was happening, I would never have guessed in a million years that I would be talk to you about coming to Natchitoches to play a show," Watts said.

"Now it just seems like it makes so much sense. Of course I'm writing a song about Katrina now instead of writing a long, boring-ass book about it."

Watts started singing and songwriting with his college band, the Mud Slab Junkies.

"We thought we were the Rolling Stones at the time," Chris Watts said.

"But we were the best band in Natchitoches because we were the only band in Natchitoches."

Watts' college experiences led him to discovering that he was more interested in writing lyrics than writing about politics or news. He worked as the Opinions Editor for The Current Sauce and moved to Washington D.C. for a semester to intern with the National Journal. However, he ended up hating it and turned the news magazine down when it offered him a full-time position.

"I didn't know what I wanted to do, but I knew that it wasn't journalism and it wasn't politics," Watts said.

"And I knew I wanted to go back to New Orleans."

After winning a songwriting contest through Universal Records in New Orleans, La., Watts recorded his debut album, "CENLA," with Grammy Award-winning producer, Jack Miele. Soon after, Watts decided that he had "reached the point of no return" and moved to Nashville, Tn., to pursue his music career further. His second album will be released in early 2016.

"I'm hoping that there's something in there that they can relate to," Watts said.

"I think art is about the connection between two people: the artist and the other person experiencing the art. I think that's what's most important."

What to Watch-Halloween Edition: Evil Dead

Hammond Lake
Contributing Writer

The first time I watched Evil Dead was when it came out in 2013. I had grown up watching the original from 1981, constantly marveling at both the extreme amounts of gore and the campy (yet, iconic) plot and camerawork. Because I was an avid fan of the initial venture, I had gone to the movie theater by myself for the last showing of the evening at 9:30 p.m. (on a Tuesday!). This way, if the movie was terrible, I would be able to leave the theater on a whim and not feel compelled to stay.

However, roughly two minutes into the film, I realized this back-up plan would not be necessary— featuring an opening more intense than the Tour de France, the beginning scene blew me away, as a brutal tour de force. Stuck in my chair, my eyes glued to the screen, I began to see that this remake was not terrible at all. Rather, Evil Dead is a terribly savage, terribly gory and terribly awesome film.

After the credits roll, the film begins basically the same way as the original— with five idiots driving to an isolated cabin in the woods. This time around, though, there is a fascinating twist behind their motivation to drive to the out-of-the-way cottage: one of the characters, Mia Allen (Jane Levy), is trying to quit heroin once and for all, as it is revealed later on that she has attempted to quit numerous times. The secluded location of the cabin appears to be the perfect place to try once more.

Along with her brother, David (Shiloh Fernandez), and her friends, Eric (Lou Taylor Pucci), Olivia (Jessica Lucas), and Natalie (Elizabeth Blackmore), Mia heads into the dark woods to quit cold turkey. Things promptly take a turn for the worse when fellow idiot, Eric— who looks like a poor-man's combo of Mitch Hedberg and Kurt Cobain— ventures to the basement. He finds a creepy, old book, which clearly should not be opened, since it's in a trash bag, bound in barbed- wire, and bears a note in blood: "LEAVE THIS BOOK ALONE." Naturally, "Mitch Dumb-berg" reads the ancient phrases inside of the book and unleashes Hell – literally – inside of the cabin and into the woods surrounding it.

Mia is the first to notice the demons around them; however, because she is going through withdrawals from smack, the gang doesn't believe a word she says when she warns them. This small point proves to be highly advantageous to the believability of the plot-line, because, when watching the original, one usually wonders, "Why don't they just leave the cabin?" This situation used in the remake answers that age-old question, as well as adding more to the character's backstory.

After the demons are unleashed, the film proceeds as the original did (tree rape, vomit, blood, chainsaw, etc.)— all the while, creating new plot-twists with extra blood to spare.

The film meanders towards the end of the third act and the visuals do get cumbersome at times, but stick around and you'll be pleased.

Fans of the original will recognize the different references throughout and those who are just starting the series will be pleasantly surprised when they view the original movie.

Writer-director Fede Alvarez breathes life into the series with this new installment, perfectly complemented by the hauntingly ominous score by Roque Banos.

Ultimately, Evil Dead (2013) acts as more than a remake of a horror classic— it's a pulse-pounding experience like no other, drenched in blood, sweat, tears and more blood, as both the audience and the characters struggle to make it out alive.

Rocky Horror Picture Show



The cast reflects on its sweet time in "Transsexual, Transylvania."

Photos compiled by Karla Ewing

Continued from front page

"This has been a big fundraiser for the Student Theatre Organization (STO) and I wanted it to really be something special."

Senior Ebony Johnson has participated in Northwestern's production of The Rocky Horror Picture Show for several years. Johnson's freshman year, she auditioned and was cast as Dr. Frank-N-Furter.

"We watched the movie together and I fell in love," she said. "Rocky is hilarious and all you wanna do throughout the whole show is dance and laugh like crazy!"Last fall, she directed the show.

"Being a part of that amazing production inspired me to direct it," she said.

"So last year I was the director and it was a BLAST! Everyone including the cast, crew and audience plays a huge part in the show."

Alumnus Gregory Spencer directed Johnson's performance during the fall of 2012. Spencer had previously been active in the theater department and other campus events.

"I love it because every time I watch it I learn something new about the show and I support it because it's a chance to let go and be free for one night only and I feel everyone's needs that one night of the Rocky Horror experience," he said.

The show will be on Halloween night in Theatre West at 6 p.m.

"'Virgins' are never prepared for the ride that Rocky takes them on," Johnson said.

"There's yelling, wigs, heels and lingerie all over the place. It's crazy! Crazy awesome! I love it and I can't wait to see it again this year! Let's do the Time Warp again!"

Virgins are accepted, but remember to be open-minded and engaging. Enjoy a wild night out at Rocky Horror!

Poetry night explores what it means to 'relate'

An-gel Samuel
Staff writer

What is your favorite cartoon?" was the question all of the performers had to answer before they were called to the stage.

BAPS (Brainy Acts Poetry Society) co-president Deloris (Dee) Atkins hosted an open mic night on Oct. 22 in the Cane River Room. The theme of the night was "relating": how people can relate to each other and how people can relate through poetry.

Atkins performed three original poems of her own. One particular poem titled "Years" was about all of her past relationships with men besides her father. Atkins said the poem was inspired because of the way the men in her life came and took love from her, but she was able to find words through it to write her poetry.

The purpose for this event was not only for entertainment, but to raise money for a fellow BAPS member in trouble. A fellow member of BAPS gave a tribute poem.

The night was filled with a collection of love poems and original songs. Albert Tuiel wrote an original song titled "Emergency" and ended with a poem that he wrote and performed for a "special girl" in his life.Teanny Davis also performed one of her poems tilted "Commitment Folds Anonymous."

"The poem was about having commitment issues because of past heartbreaks," Davis said. Davis shared that her poem was inspired by a TV show about people having issues with commitment.

Sophomore Taylor Henderson said she enjoyed this event because it was different than the ones in the past."The old performances were more heartfelt and serious; this performance is more comical than dramatic," Henderson said. Sophomore Iris Barrera agreed that this performance veered from the group's past events.

"This time it was more lighthearted than heartfelt, but they always have deep things to say," Barrera said.



Correction: Last week, the picture used with the jazz orchestra story mistakeningly labeled the person in the picture as Ian Cassidy. The person pictured is Justin Lindsey. Our sincerest apologies for the mistake.

Explaining Halloween and Wicca

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

There are many stereotypes about the religion of Wicca.

One of the worst that Dr. Holly Stave, professor of English, has heard is that Wiccans worship Satan.

"We existed way before Christians came along with their devil," the assistant director of the Louisiana Scholars' College said. "Why would you worship evil?"

Dr. Stave gets a laugh out of typical witch-related stereotypes, such as "black cats" and "multi-colored socks."

"We actually have a lot of funs with those; I just hate that worshipping Satan crap," she said.

"It's an outright lie and anyone who studied our religion knows that."

Dr. Stave has practiced Wicca for 35 years. She took interest in the nature-based faith after questioning the absence of feminism in Christianity.

"In the beginning, it was the fact that there was a goddess honored as well as a god," she said.

"That is what drove me away from Christianity. I was a feminist as were many women in the '70s, and still are, but every time I sat in church and heard in the name of the Father and in the name of the Son my hackles rose. Where is the mother and daughter in all of this?"

Wicca is derived from the pre-Christian religions of northern Europe. It is based on the belief of both a reigning god and goddess— symbolism about balanced energy.

"We don't believe that there is a pretty lady sitting on the moon or a great guy on the sun, but they are metaphors for life," she said.

In Wicca and other nature-based religions, everything is a part of the god and goddess— therefore, everything that exists is holy.

The cycle of the seasons is celebrated. There are eight rituals — considered high holy days — in a year. These ceremonies celebrate the harvest, the planting of the new crops, wintertime and so forth.

"We make a sacred space; we evoke the old ones, the guardians to protect us," said Dr. Stave. "We anoint people to remind them of their holiness, kind of get them to let go of their troubles of the day."

Sowen, also known as Halloween, is the ritual where ancestors are remembered, along with loved ones that have been lost. Each person tells an anecdote or memory about someone who has passed over.

"One thing we always do at Sowen is set a plate and a glass and invite any ancestor that would like to come back to come back for one night," she said.

"I like to set out a little bowl for a cat that might want to come back."



Dr. Holly Stave spends her time in the Scholars' College. *Photo by Alec Horton*



Cooking with Vic

Rachel Taylor
Contributing Writer

Halloween Mummy Jalapeño Poppers

Ingredients

-10 jalapeño peppers
-8 ounces cream cheese, room temperature
-8 ounces jack cheese, shredded
-1 scallion (green onion), finely chopped
-½ teaspoon salt
-1 package refrigerated crescent rolls
(Pillsbury is preferred)
-2 eggs, beaten
-Candy eyeballs
(can be purchased at Michael's or on Amazon, while an alternative is using a little cream cheese and piece of a black olive for the eyes)



Instructions

Preheat the oven to 400° F. In a small bowl, mix the cream cheese, jack cheese, scallion and salt until well-blended.

Roll out the crescent rolls and separate them into four rectangles (not triangles) with a perforation in the middle of each of the pieces.

Press your fingers into the perforations to seal them.

Using a pizza cutter, cut each dough rectangle individually, resulting in 10 long pieces lengthwise.

Make sure the jalapeño peppers have been sliced in half lengthwise, with the pits and seeds removed.

Leave the stem, however, on the majority of the peppers.

Remember to wear rubber gloves to avoid burns.

Fill each jalapeño half with the cheese mixture.

Wrap each jalapeño half with the dough, leaving a space for the eyes. Use two pieces of dough if necessary.

Brush with the egg mixture and place on the baking sheet.

Bake in the oven for 8-10 minutes. Remove from the oven and press the eyes into the cheese where the opening is.

Remove the eyes before eating, unless you used the cream cheese and black olive alternative for the eyes.







McKenna Opbroek casually models her autumn-based fashion choices by Kyser Hall. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Demon Style

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

Nothing whispers autumn and winter like finally pulling out dark leather for cold days. So, when I saw HMT major McKenna Opbroek's leather shorts, I said, "Yes, please!"

What's your inspiration behind this outfit?
"These are hard questions, Racheal! These are my favorite shoes— ever. I wear them all the time. And, then, I was like, 'Leather shorts are cute, and it's kind of cold outside, so I'll wear some quarter length sleeves.' Those were a nice combination. Oh, and a beanie because it's fall!"

Any on-campus pet peeves that aggravate you fashionably?
"Goodness, I'm really sick and tired of all the t-shirts that cover girls' butts and you can't even see their shorts. Like, why? And people who wear socks with sandals all the time— I just don't get it. I just don't understand."

Do you have any fashion advice?
"Color coordinate. People don't color coordinate and it bothers me. Like, you can't do dark navy with black— it doesn't go together, in my opinion. Dark chocolate browns and blacks don't go together either. Now, you can do tans and browns. . . just color coordinate. That's my advice!"

How does this outfit affect your vibe for the day?
"I feel really cute. I do! I kinda walk around like, 'Mhmm!' I feel good about myself!"

Pasch embraces breast cancer

Continued from front page

"For Christmas, he gave me this hope box, and it was supposed to symbolize all the support that I could have even if I wouldn't have people with me. You don't know what's going to happen mentally when you're going through this…I didn't know there was so much love and care and support in the Natchitoches community."

Yonna began chemotherapy January 31, 2012, the day before her 34th birthday. She traveled to Alexandria for her chemotherapy, which took all day, but remained in Natchitoches for other care. She participated in two research projects in an effort to help the growth of understanding about breast cancer and in hope that her results could make someone else's process better.

Yonna considers herself very fortunate. She is glad to be alive, but she never realized how much people cared about her. Yonna stated that she never had time to lose hope. She continued to live her life and do her job, just without hair, slightly thinner and with sleeves to cover her radiated spots.

Although Yonna is able to look at her experience with positivity, her journey was never easy. Her process lasted ten months through the year of 2012. She has never been pronounced cancer free and now continues on medication. Yonna continues to use her Hope Box and emphasized the importance of thanking people.

Yonna encourages women to know their normal, perform self-breast examinations and never take anything for granted. She continues to support and work with several different cancer programs, including Susan G. Komen.

"This journey's never over," she said. But Yonna has chosen to take this as a positive experience and continues to improve her life, the way she lives and how she treats people.

Five ways to cope with the mid-semester hump

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

It's halfway through the semester and you're dealing with a serious case of burnout syndrome, a psychological disease caused by several weeks of a chaotic college life. Symptoms include: chronic exhaustion, extreme apathy for anything that doesn't involve Netflix or naps, and the feeling that "EVERYTHING SUCKS."

David Ballard of the American Psychological Association defines job (or school) burnout as "an extended period of time where someone experiences exhaustion and a lack of interest in things, resulting in a decline in their job performance."

If you're experiencing any of these burnout symptoms, then the mid-semester hump has hit you, and it has hit you hard. Do not fear— there are ways to get over the hump and on to greener pastures.

1 **When you're out of your mind, drink a little wine:** This advice can be taken literally or, if you're not much of a wino, take this advice to mean that you need to relax in the midst of the chaos. Not everything should be miserable and there are ways to make life just a little more bearable. Follow a hilarious Twitter account to look at on your study breaks or make a fun playlist dedicated to your study time. Believe me, homework is a little better with a glass of wine in one hand and a pen in the other. Treat. Yo'. Self. Disclaimer: More than one to two glasses of wine might hinder studying productivity.

2 **Make exciting plans for the future:** Plan a trip for your next break from school. Having something fun to look forward to will keep you from being a negative Nancy all the time. If you don't have a break coming up, plan a weekend outing to Shreveport or go see a movie you've been wanting to see. When a busy schedule keeps you from vacation time, plan something small. Dedicating an afternoon to sitting in a coffee shop with a delicious pastry and a 'guilty pleasure' novel of the young adult genre is necesary because you are a young adult with a lot of angst and a need for carbs.

3 **Remember that you're not alone:** Call your mom and cry. Call a friend and cry. Talk to your dog and cry. Find someone that will be patient with your blotchy, tear-stained face and vent until you feel just a little bit better. Talking to a friend can lighten the load and you may find out that someone can give you advice (or at least feels the same way that you do).

4 **Take a break and meditate:** You don't have to "Om" for hours, but make a habit of doing an activity that calms your mind. Do something that makes you feel "zen" inside, like exercising, taking a walk, spending an afternoon in nature, cleaning your room, laying in bed and listening to your favorite album all the way through, painting a watercolor picture or cooking a meal. Make sure to keep your "zen" activity apart from social media or anything that will distract from your vibes.

5 **Shed commitments:** Pick at least one item in your schedule and cross it out. Make the necessary preparations and spend that time shirking your responsibilities. You will feel free and glorious for doing this. Remember not to agree to any more commitments when your schedule is already full and to eliminate everything that is unnecessary. You will definitely thank yourself later.



To whore or not to whore: Should costumes be sexy?

Emily Carter
Associate Editor

It's that time of year where girls must answer the most important question: Am I going to dress sexy or not this Halloween? Generally, sexy costumes tend to be on the slutty side, leaving people wondering whether or not they want to risk slut shaming this holiday season.

This fear comes from the social construct that America is built around: a patriarchal concept that says women must be virginal with the double standard of being impossibly sexy. This means that, whenever we look virginal or 'prudish,' we are wrong, but, whenever we look sexy or 'slutty,' we are whores that are going to bring about the end of the world.

I personally believe that sexiness is an innate quality all women possess, whether we are aware of it or not. The choice is whether we act upon it. I choose to act on it whenever I can— Halloween, in particular.

One tradition about Halloween is that it is a thinning of the barrier between the living and the dead. Why not take this further and get rid of the barrier that says you have to be a prude or a slut?

Something else that might prevent women from going with sexier versions of costumes is being self-conscious about how their bodies look. This is understandable when you think about the covers of magazines. That's not real life; that's Photoshop. So, if you would wear a sexier costume if you looked like them, wear one looking like you and work it.

I understand both of these fears, but I don't think that should stop women from picking whatever costumes they want. Want to be a sexy fairy? Go for it. Sexy pirate? Do it. A fairy pirate that strikes fear into the hearts of everyone who sees? Absolutely.



Many see Halloween as a time to be sexy, while others see wearing those questionable costumes as 'slutty' or 'trashy.' *Photo from Creative Commons*

NSU Memories: Parking in '69

Bill Thrash
Contributing Alumnus

One of my favorite memories of Northwestern State University is of Chaplan (or Chaplain) Lake, which is an oxbow lake running along both the east and south side of the university campus.

In the '60s, this was the place to go parking with your date. Parking as in romance. After all, it was patrolled by campus police, and as long as they could see two heads inside the car they merely drove by.

It was a place you could have romance on your mind without your girlfriend getting worried about the urban-legend psycho-killer who recently escaped from the insane asylum and had a hook for a hand.

On one of those romantic evenings in 1969, a song from 1967 played on the car radio. We were at the stage of our relationship that I suggested we make that particular song "our song." I certainly don't know about now, but in '69 it was a quaint custom for couples to share a song as their song.

She listened and agreed that it was a great song to be "our song." The title to the song is "Never My Love" by a group named The Association. They were popular back then and had other hits like "Wendy" and "Along Came Mary." If you want to listen to it on something like Spotify, be sure to pick the single edition copy and not the re-mastered edition. Try it. You might like it.

To us, the words had meaning and still do to this very day. You see, that girlfriend in 1969 at NSU was a girl I started dating as a senior at Woodlawn H.S. (Shreveport). We dated for five years, then after we both graduated from NSU in 1971 we married on Aug. 14, 1971. This past August we celebrated our 44th wedding anniversary.

Next year we will have known each other for 50 years. If the editors of this paper don't mind, I may write about how my wife and I almost never met even though we grew up within a mile of each other.

Thank you for reading this and remember: You are probably having the best time you'll have in this life as far as having fun and not having too much responsibility. Enjoy it!



Holiday nightmare before Halloween

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

If you ever saw the movie "Nightmare Before Christmas," then you know what can happen when Halloween tries to take over Christmas. The two holidays collided and chaos ensued. Well, I guess we haven't learned the lesson yet, because it's a "holly, jolly Halloween" this year.

I had this frightening revelation recently. One day, while I was on Facebook, I saw a picture and post stating "8 weeks until Christmas." I was shocked to see a Christmas-related post before the holiday of Halloween.

Then, on my way to class the next day, I noticed the hanging of Christmas lights around town. I originally brushed-off the thought of it being too early to hang lights because Natchitoches is the "City of Lights" and it makes sense to hang a large amount of Christmas lights early to prepare for the month-long festival. But, before I parked my car on campus, I heard a commercial on the radio advertising tickets for a Christmas concert in November.

Finally, I concluded that the season has come early this year when I visited Walmart and saw the Christmas aisle already set up for early buyers. It was an unusual image, seeing Halloween costumes on one end of an aisle and Christmas stockings on the other. I guess we're completely skipping the Thanksgiving dinner this year — lucky for those turkeys.

As a Christian, I love Christmas just as much as the next person, and I desire to live out the spirit of the holiday throughout the entire year, but I dislike exhausting the festive celebration of the poor holiday before it even happens.

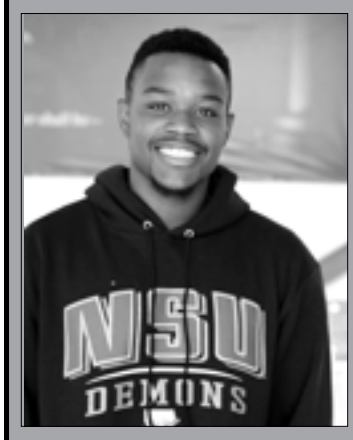
Even though Christmas has been more noticeable, Halloween started earlier as well. Once the "Back-to-School" craze finished, costumes were on the shelves. For the past month and a half we've seen costume ads and spooky TV shows. Both Christmas and Halloween festivities are as sweet as the seasonal candies they bring, but you can only indulge in so much before it makes you sick. When holidays start colliding with one another, it ruins the joy.

In my opinion, with all the commercialized commotion, it is no surprise that people become annoyed and hostile whenever the Christmas holiday arrives earlier then planned. Alongside the celebration of the Virgin Mary giving birth to the future savior of Christians, Jesus, there is a commercialized Santa Claus creeping up with his big, red bag of goodies. Given, the holiday does bring a large revenue to the banks of America, and it is during the Christmas time of year that our country is blessed to not be in debt for a day, Black Friday. However, it is not a major factor to emphasize enough to ruin the joys within each holiday season.

So, I say this: Let's celebrate Jack with his pumpkin patch, the turkey served with stuffing and mashed potatoes, and Jesus' birth at their established times.

NS'U' Voice

Would stricter gun control laws be effective in reducing homicides and suicides in the U.S.?

Marvaeya Edwards: Junior, Accounting Major	Lafaye Muse: Senior, Mathematics Major	Jason Smith: Sophomore, Music Business Major	Grace Brumfield: Senior, Musical Theatre Major
			
"No, because there will always be a way to get your hand on a gun, and if you choose to strengthen gun control people will try even harder to get guns."	"Yes, if you can control the owner's use and misuse of guns it can tremendously lower the rate of homicides and suicides."	"I believe more strict gun control laws will help reduce homicides and suicides in the US. However, people will still be able to illegally acquire guns, unfortunately."	"No, gun laws are strict enough. Those guns used, whether legally or not, would have been obtained regardless of stricter gun laws. Homicides and suicides will be reduced if people showed love to each other more."

Northwestern Horror Story: Common fears of college kids

Alliyah Perry
Opinions Editor

In my opinion, college is one of the scariest places you can be -- not because it's haunted (even though that, too, is a possibility), but because of the hassles that come with being a college student. I turned to Yik Yak and my own insight to list a few things most college students fear:

1. Not graduating. Well, of course! That's what you're here for, right?

2. Not being able to get a job with the degree you graduate with. Four to six years of struggling and now you enter the workforce to struggle.

3. Midterms and finals. Hey, at least you've gotten through one of those successfully (hopefully).

4. That million dollar question: "What are you going to do when you graduate?" Let's just say, for me, it's going to be a surprise.

5. Last, but not least, the future. Who doesn't fear the unknown?

These are just some of the chills and fears we have as students. I left a couple more of the personal answers that I received out, such as getting pregnant and Goleman, but you get the picture. Just remember, fear is for the weak. Get over it, live and enjoy college.

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Annual Tipoff helps Demons prepare for season



Guard Zeek Woodley comes down after dunking the ball during their Annual Tipoff. Woodley won the dunk contest by jumping over Demons' star outfielder and touted Major League Baseball prospect Nick Heath. *Photo by Emilee Self*

Ben Wellman
Sports Writer

Both Demon basketball teams had good seasons last year and they're looking for more of the same this year. The Demon and Lady Demon basketball teams had their annual tip-off event to show the fans what to expect for their 2015-16 campaign. A variety of events, including intra-squad scrimmages, a three-point contest and a slam dunk contest, showed fans a little of what to expect from both teams.

Leading the men's program is Mike McConathy, who is entering his 17th season as Demon basketball head coach. Coach Mike, as he's referred to, has more wins than any other basketball coach in Louisiana, reaching his 600th win last season.

"I think we've got a great opportunity," McConathy said. "I feel like we have some good young players, some good older players, and we're just excited about it."

The player getting all the attention for the men's team this season will be point guard Jalan West, who will be playing his final season as a Demon this year. He's put up great numbers in his time as a Demon and he's not looking to slow down in his last year playing at NSU.

"I just want to close this chapter out on a win, maybe get a ring," Jalan West said. "I just want to be a leader and don't be inconsistent with it. I want to try to stay consistent in being a leader and leading this team and getting them motivated to win a championship."

For the Lady Demons, the husband and wife duo of Scott and Brooke Stoehr entered their fourth season as co-head coaches. Under the two, the Lady Demons have experienced great success, even as far as making it to the NCAA tournament over the past two seasons.

"Everybody's optimistic, we're excited about the returners we have coming back," Brooke Stoehr said. "Our backboard has been through a couple of championship runs. Our front board is new and young, but we have a lot of depth and a lot of size, so we're excited about what this team can do."

The caveat of this season is that both West and Lady Demon point guard Janelle Perez will be playing their final seasons as Demons. The coaches are well aware of this fact, but they are focused more about giving them a great farewell than a future without them.

"You're thankful you have him for the three years," McConathy said of West. "You want to relish the last year you have him. You don't really look at it that way, you just look at it from the standpoint of being fortunate to have a guy of his caliber in a Demon uniform, and we'll just continue to enjoy that."

"It's something we've been preparing for the last couple of years in the recruiting cycles and recruiting classes," Stoehr said of losing Perez for next year. "You're constantly trying to make your program better, and we're always looking to replace players (that graduate). You really, as a staff, try to look ahead and see what you're going to lose each year and try to replace that."

It wasn't all sentiments with these two though. The two seniors were challenged by University President Dr. Jim Henderson in a game of horse. West defeated Henderson in horse earlier in the semester and Henderson called for revenge, this time with Perez thrown into the mix. Despite a slow start and good pressure from Perez and Henderson, West emerged as the victor in the rematch of horse, which was variated to spell demon.

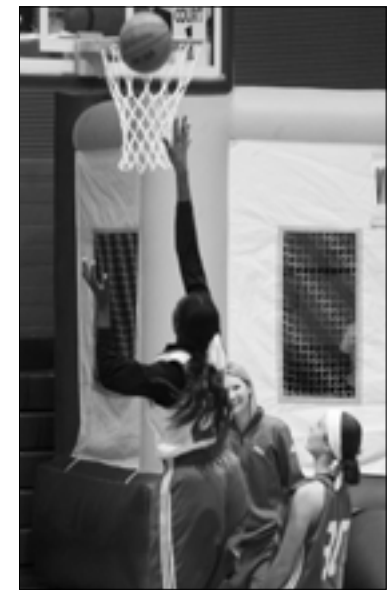
"I think they were teaming up on me at first, but I'm glad I won because I wasn't gonna hear the end of it if I would've let either one of them win," Jalan West said.

"It was fun, and it was interesting to play against the president and Jalan in a good atmosphere," Perez said. "It's been awesome to be close to Jalan throughout the years on and off the court, and we've had a bond. He's a great player, and I look up to him."

"They are great students, great scholar-athletes, great citizens and great leaders on campus," Henderson said. "We're blessed to have people of that caliber, and it's going to be fun year to watch Northwestern State men's and women's basketball."

Basketball season begins for both teams on Nov. 13, when the Demons travel to Ole Miss and the Lady Demons host LeTourneau.





Far left: Guards Jalan West and Janelle Perez stand alongside President Henderson after their threeway game of D-E-M-O-N. West prevailed as winner over both Perez and Henderson. Henderson was the first to get out that night before West and Perez entered a final showdown. Left: Lady Demon Ndey Sonko went for a layup during their women's scrimmage basketball game.

Submitted photos by Gary Hardamon & Emilee Self



Running back Llorens, who leading the team with 451 total rushing yards, turned the corner as he looked for the endzone during their battle against the Cowboys. *Photo by Richard Mart*

NSU falls short of upset

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

On what would've been called an upset, the Demons couldn't finish strong as they let the Cowboys haul off a 47-27 victory for their homecoming night.

Starting the fourth quarter off with a quick score, the Demons (1-6, 1-4) tied the score at 27 with the Cowboys (7-0,6-0). Since then, everything went downhill. With horrible calls and horrible weather throughout the night, the Cowboys put together three final scoring drives that sealed the deal and created no chance that the Demons could pull off an upset. Ed Eagan started the game off strong for the Demons, as he returned the opening kick 97-yards back for a Demons touchdown, putting them on the board first and early. The Demons didn't score again until mid-second quarter, when kicker Chris Moore closed the gap to four points with a 20-yard field goal.

Coming out of a 14-10 halftime score, McNeese added to the lead on the first play of the third quarter with a 73-yard touchdown pass. NSU quickly struck back on their first snap as quarterback Joel Blumenthal raced 62 yards to cut the score to 21-17. On the ensuing kickoff, McNeese's Jamari Payne broke loose for a 95-yard score, but Demons' senior safety Chase Collins ran him down from behind inside the 15 and stripped the ball loose, recovering it at the NSU 8.

"That play by Chase really says it all about the effort our guys gave," Demons head coach Jay Thomas said. "He refused to give up and made an incredible play with incredible effort. We had that from our team all night long but that one obviously stands out.

The teams managed to get another score in late in the third quarter as Moore kicked a 44-yard field goal. Several plays later, the Cowboys ran in it from 2-yards out to end the third quarter up, 27-20.

"We were right there, toe to toe, into the fourth quarter with a very, very good McNeese team, with one of the best defenses I've seen here," said Thomas. "If we get one break the other way on about 3-4 plays, I think we're celebrating right now. I'm really proud of our guys for the way they competed and the way they played tonight in all three phases. I'm hurting for them too."

Both quarterbacks were productive Saturday night as Stephen Rivers, who received the start for the Demons, ended 21-37, throwing 276 yards with one touchdown and two interceptions. Quarterback Joel Blumenthal was the leading rusher, as he ran for 81 yards off six attempts, scoring one touchdown.

"We've got to be more consistent on defense. We're making plays now. We're still giving up too many," said Thomas. "But our guys stepped up and made McNeese earn it."

Complete story at currentsaucenews.com

O'Connell inspires on and off of the court



Caiti O'Connell inspires her team.*Photo by NSU Photography*

Natalie Jaeger
Contributing Writer

"A dream is a wish your heart makes." This Disney refrain portrays the accomplished dreams of Caiti O'Connell: captain for NSU Women's Volleyball, an active involver with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) organization and exiting college with both a biology degree and a secured internship at Disney World in Florida.

Her personal goals, however, also include helping others achieve their own.

"She is such a strong Christian that inspires me daily to become a better person," NSU freshman volleyball player Abby Gardea said.

As a fifth-year senior on the volleyball team, O'Connell brings the mentality necessary to take her team to the next level, explained NSU Volleyball assistant coach Alicia Roth.

"Caiti's veteran leadership on the court is something that helps to make our newcomers gain consistency and bring a confidence to the court," Roth said.

O'Connell hopes to bring strong leadership to the volleyball team and also make a difference throughout campus.

Christie Price, a NSU counselor and FCA coordinator described O'Connell as a dependable leader and "someone who always goes above and beyond what is asked of her."

"I would describe her as her own adjective," said Price. "Caiti's leadership doesn't just stay within the realm of athletics. She has the ability to reach out to people all across campus."

O'Connell's leadership roles will continue after graduation during her Disney World internship in Orlando, Fl., next fall.

"This internship is something I have been dreaming and praying about for a very long time and actually getting the opportunity to go and do it is very exciting," O'Connell said. "As for my future, I'm not too sure what it holds past this upcoming semester, but I know who holds my future and that is something that makes the uncertainty of it all a little better and less scary."

O'Connell feels more secure knowing friends and teammates will always be in her corner.

Junior Lauren Agan and teammate said she has "complete faith" in O'Connell.

"Once she sets her heart on something, it's hard to let anything or anyone get in her way," she said.

O'Connell understands that dreams don't just happen, but require a goal and the motivation to work hard for that goal.

"I was able to accomplish all these dreams with help from all the amazing people I've met along the way," O'Connell said.

West and Perez hope for rings their senior seasons

Reginald Williams
Sports Writer

One school, two teams with two super star student athletes.

Over the past four seasons, Northwestern State has seen two once in a life time players grace the city of Natchitoches: star point guard for the 2015 Southland Conference champions and NCAA tournament participant Lady Demons basketball team Janelle Perez and two-time First team All Southland Conference performer Jalan West.

Perez, a senior out of El Paso, Texas, emerged as the key player for the Lady Demons over the past three seasons helping lead them to two straight Southland Conference championships along with two back to back NCAA tournament berths. West, who hails from just up the road in Bossier City, has been the engine that has made the NSU men's basketball team run since his redshirt freshman season in 2012.

Size definitely isn't on these two side in a game usually dominated by big men. Perez is generously listed at 5'2 as West is listed at 5'11. Despite their small statures, these two prime time players have not let that hold them down.

Perez and West continue to thrive in and out of Prather Coliseum as two of the best point guards in the country respectively.

The 2015-2016 season tips off for both teams on Nov. 13. The men compete against Ole Miss while the Lady Demons open in Natchitoches against LeTourneau University.

III | NORTHWESTERN STATE

Halloweek

October 26-31 2015

Keep a lookout for more information on these events!



Chasing Isabella

Monday, Oct. 26 | *Hosted by First Year Experience*

Find the clues each day at the Student Services Center to search for the legendary campus ghost. A cash prize will be awarded to the student who finds her.



A Nightmare On Elm Street (1984)

Tuesday, Oct. 27 | 8-10 PM | Iberville Green

Hosted by Student Government Association



Campus Living Villages

Costume Contest *Residents Only*

Wednesday, Oct. 28 | 7:45-9 PM

UP1 & 2, Columns, Varnado



Halloween Carnival *Invitation Only*

Thursday, Oct. 29 | 5-7 PM | UP2

Hosted by President's Leadership Program, Campus Living Villages, Greek Life



NSU Horror Story: Circus Edition

Thursday, Oct. 29 | 7-10 PM | Iberville Green

Hosted by Student Activities Board



Soccer Game - Costume Contest

Friday, Oct. 30 | 7 PM

Lady Demon Soccer Complex



Rocky Horror Picture Show

Saturday, Oct. 31

Theatre West | 6 PM

Hosted by Make Your Own Theatre



Timeline of events in social media controversy
Page 6 & 7

Students perspective regarding Instagram photos
Page 9

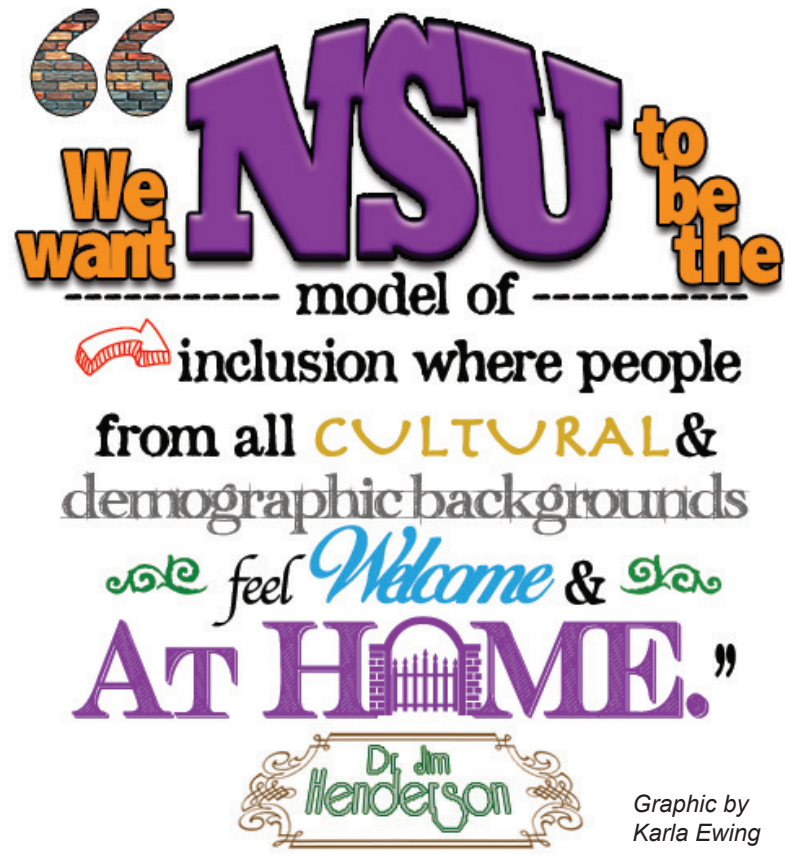
Demons keep NSU Challenge trophy home
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THE CURRENTSAUCE

‘Moments of Truth’



Students sit on Kyser Brickway on Wednesday, Nov. 4, in a student-led demonstration following the heated reaction in social media to two pictures of students in controversial constumes posted on the SGA’s Student Concerns Page. *Photo by Ashley Wolf*



Graphic by Karla Ewing

Social issues on social media

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

A photo has the unique ability to depict a story, evict emotions and attract a vigorous debate on social media.

During the past week, the controversy sparked by two photos of University students that were posted on the official Northwestern State University Student Concerns Page due to alleged racial and trans-antagonistic content did not stop at heated Facebook commentary. These posts by students led to both administrative action and a student-led assembly on university grounds.

Sunday evening, an NSU student shared a screenshot of an Instagram photo showing four young men in costume with the Turpin Stadium scoreboard in the background. The photo was tagged at Harry Turpin Stadium, and one of the students used blackface with his costume.

The post was taken down in a matter of minutes. The student was then removed from the page without being notified or messaged.

A second student posted the same photo to the page Monday afternoon, asking for an explanation and the legal implications of the picture. The students became concerned and began questioning the photo, its origins and purpose, through comments.

Athletics Director Gregory Burke stated that he found out about the photo around 7 p.m. Sunday and took action by gathering the facts, assessing the information and creating a discussion.

Continued on Page 3



NSU student Javonti Thomas reveals a heart on his chest during Wednesday’s demonstration on the Brickway. *Photo by Ashley Wolf*

NSU police gives advice after student's car robbed again

Julia Barry
Contributing Writer

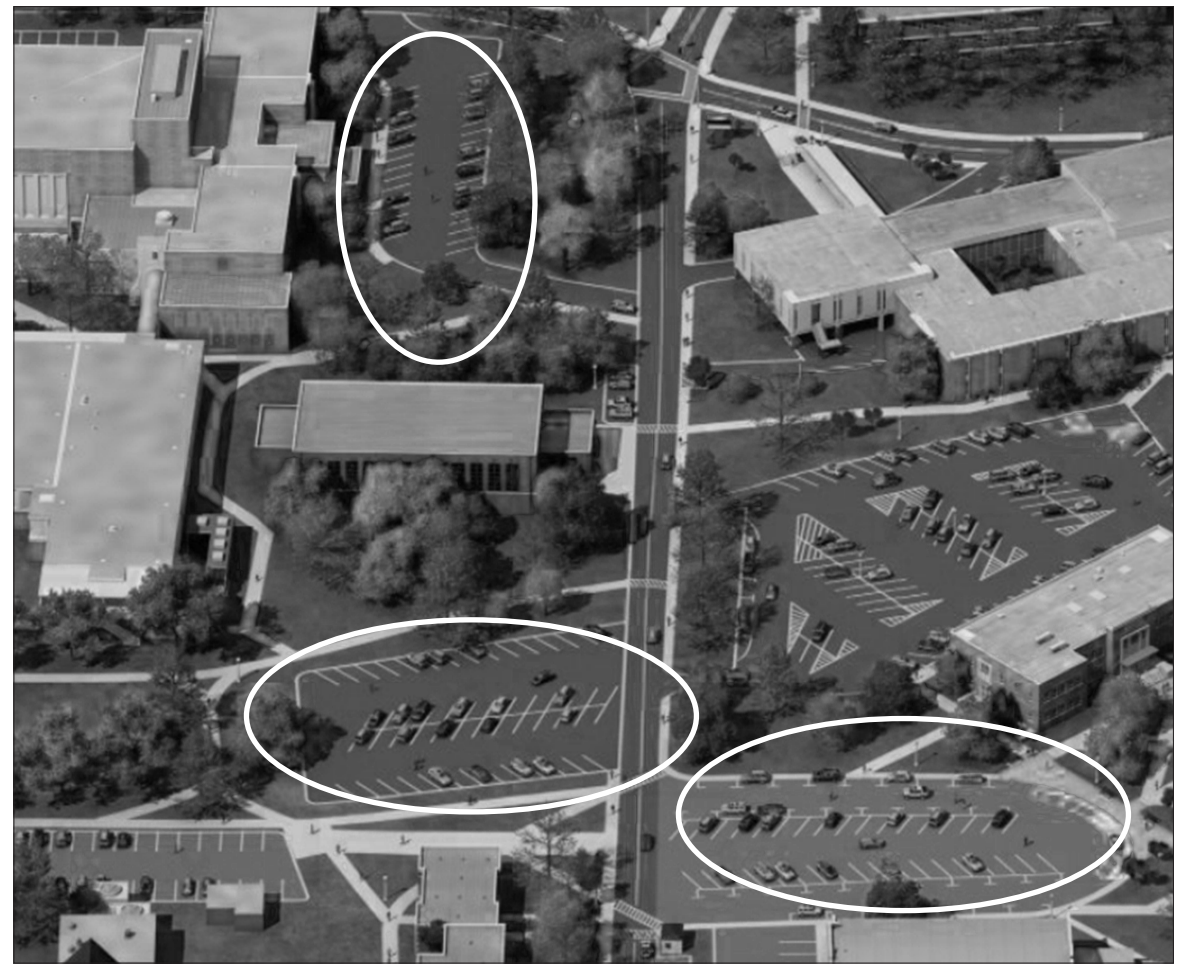
Senior Grace Brumfield's car was broken into on Oct. 24 in the early hours of the morning. This is the second time Brumfield's car has been broken into outside of her home during her academic career at Northwestern State University.

Other instances have occurred in which cars have been stolen and never recovered. In the previous attack, Brumfield's Laptop and GPS were stolen, and in this attack, her wallet, car title and entire car were ransacked. In the first incident, Brumfield said her entire block was broken into, but in the second incident she believes that someone was watching her car.

Officer John Caliste, officer at University Police at Northwestern, says that most break ins in the Natchitoches community are crimes of opportunity, and situations like Brumfield's tend to be an exception. Caliste also believes that situations like hers can be minimized by doing what he calls "target hardening" which is "making yourself and your property the least attractive to get your car broken into."

Caliste participated in a survey in which he examined cars in the parking lots by Morrison Hall, between the police station and the Natatorium and the Theatre West parking lot. In the survey, Caliste found 60 cars with items of value in open view and of those cars, 15 were unlocked. The most important step to avoid break-ins is to make sure to lock your car and the second is to place items of value, such as cell phones, purses, laptops or any form of electronics, out of sight either under the seats or in the trunk, Caliste said.

"It's good practices for you to use for your entire life," Caliste said of these practices. He also recommends keeping a written log of items of value including the make, model and serial number on electronics.



The circled parking lots above are the lots police used to sample security of the cars. Of the 60 cars tried, 15 of the cars were unlocked. *From NSU Website*



Photo from Creative Commons

Caffeinating campus
Starbucks to open in Watson

Kayla Ryan
Contributing Writer

The cries of caffeine-deprived college students have finally been heard. At last, Starbucks is coming to Natchitoches. Students will be able to enjoy coffee while studying with the convenience of never having to leave Watson.

Sophomore Brielle Moore said she plans to go to the library more often when Starbucks finally opens.

"I think it's kind of weird that it will be in the library," she said, "We aren't allowed to have food and drinks in there. It doesn't matter though. I'm glad it will be on campus because I don't have a car."

Freshman nursing major LaDacia Gilbert also plans on going to the library more after Starbucks is built.

"I really love Starbucks; I think everybody loves Starbucks," Gilbert said. "I only go to the library to do research papers, so having a Starbucks will give me the will to go more often."

Director Jennifer Kelly of Sodexo said students should start to see progress in the next few weeks.

"We anticipate it being open in February, possibly, when students are returning for the spring semester," Kelly said. "We hope to be open Jan. 11."

Students will be able to use declining balance to pay for the drinks as they would in Vic's. This location will be part of the "We Proudly Serve" program, which allows businesses to buy their coffee beans from Starbucks while having the freedom to modify their menu to serve local products.

The Starbucks in Watson may start with a smaller menu and increase as demand increases, though there is one product that NSU can rest assured will appear on the menu.

"We will for sure offer Dr. Henderson's favorite Green Tea latte," Kelly said. "We will definitely start with a variety for students to choose from."

Job availability will be managed through Sodexo, since they are the operator.

Social issues on social media

Continued from front

His goal now is education and awareness, and he is in the process of talking to every athletics team. Burke stated that they were not denying the offense but said, "I feel very adamant there was not malicious intent."

Burke explained that their statement was the result of the four players, the coach and Sports Information Director Doug Ireland sitting in a room, compiling their words into the given statement.

The four were dressed up for the baseball team's annual event where players wear themed costumes and participate in a mock World Series. Burke said, however, that even if the group had taken the photo at an off-campus event they would still be held accountable for the insensitivity of their actions.

Burke expanded by stating that the players will be working with minorities through community service hours, because they were the ones most impacted by the costume and post. They will also be going through a National Collegiate College Association sensitivity workshop.

"Diversity is about more than just about race," Burke said. "It's about gender and other sensitive things too."

He said diversity training should be incorporated into their annual fall athletics ethics workshop. Burke encourages sensitivity to all students and said that, though it is tough to go through, this incident can make the campus better.

Concerned student, SGA representative and local NAACP member Chantasia Gratsy supports the idea of cultural sensitive education.

"We feel that the Northwestern State University of Louisiana community needs to be educated on Cultural Sensitivity, in which we plan to do," she said.

"The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is aware of the issue that arose yesterday on the Northwestern State University Student Concern's Page. The matter is being discussed with the Louisiana Youth and College Division of NAACP, in which I am vice president, on how to resolve the matter with the university and to make sure that the issue is being handled accordingly and not 'swept under the rug.'"

At the Nov. 2 Student Government Association meeting, senators and representatives discussed the utility of the page and whether or not to delete it. Sophomore Tre Nelson argued for keeping the page available to students.

"People are always going to have opinions, and that gives people a place to voice their opinions," Nelson stated.

The group does reserve the right to ban students and delete their digital footprint, however, if they violate the Code of Conduct, according to the page disclaimer. The page is monitored by SGA president, vice president, advisor and student affairs commissioner.

SGA Advisor and Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life Shayne Creppel acknowledged conflict to be acceptable on the page and said that the page should be used by those who have opposing views as a safe place to challenge each other.

Creppel, however, stated that the SGA would not "tolerate insulting each other on the students concerns page, at all, ever."

Another concern that was brought up in the SGA meeting was the fact that they removed the picture of the two students in Caitlyn Jenner pre-transition and post-transition costumes but didn't remove the post of the student in blackface.

In response to being asked why one post was deleted but not the other, Creppel stated that he personally deleted it from the page with the reasoning that the picture of the baseball team was at a public event sponsored by the university and the other was at a privately-funded event. The alleged private event, however, was a Sigma Sigma Sigma social located at their sorority house on campus. Creppel stated that he would be meeting with the Greek student to ensure they understand the offended reaction.

"Intentionality does not dictate offensiveness," Creppel said.

A diversity center, details of where it will go, functionality and funding, has been in the works and will continue to be, both Creppel and Dean of Students Francis Conine affirmed. Conine said that her current office will serve as the location for the diversity center after she relocates. Conine commented on the issue and said she had researched the incident legally and in the student Code of Conduct.

"It's not against the law; it's not against the student code. However, there's some grey area I think in that area of harassment," Conine said. She alone cannot take punitive action unless a student files a complaint through her office.

"I think it's kind of gray area, in between the issues of freedom of speech and harassment," Conine said. "For harassment to be considered, it has to be clear and pervasive, it has to go on for some time, it has to be a hostile environment."

"#concernedstudents" hit the bricks: Peaceful demonstration moves from social media to campus

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

Students brought the hashtag "#concernedstudents" off the Twitter sphere and onto Kyser Brickway for a peaceful demonstration on Wednesday.

The recent photos circulating of baseball team members dressed up as the Soggy Bottom Boys from "O Brother Where Art Thou" with a student in blackface on the football field enraged many students. But those weren't the only Halloween costumes. In the educational protest, or "teach-in" as students called it, protesters were also responding to a couple that dressed as Caitlyn Jenner pre-transition and post-transition.

The students weren't allowed to march around campus as originally planned because of guidelines in the Student Handbook, but they marched back and forth in the Kyser Brickway chanting and holding signs that spectators couldn't ignore or "swipe" like a Tindr profile.

Students marched with posters decorated with boldly marked statements that included "Jesus Loves Queers," "Our Culture is Not a Costume" and "Intent is Irrelevant — One Person's Humor is Another's Hurt."

"Is race a costume?" one student said.

"No!" the group of protesters responded.

"Is gender a costume?" a student shouted out.

The group of protesters replied again: "No!" they said.

KSLA News from Shreveport showed up to cover the protest and posted an article that afternoon. However, they failed to mention the controversial photos of the Caitlyn Jenner costume even though they featured signs that read "Stop Transphobia" in their television news coverage.



Students participating in the peaceful demonstration Wednesday called for an end to blackface and transphobia with a message of love and equality. *Photo by Ashley Wolf*

KSLA's article focused on the Halloween costume that included the baseball team members instead.

"I'm pissed," junior dance major Logan Terrell said. "They only showed one picture with the baseball team members and not the other. Is Natchitoches not ready for the issue of transphobia even though we are discussing this issue at our university?"

The protesters represented students from all across campus including the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance, NSULA Pride, the Brainy Acts Poetry Society, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and more.

"I think [the teach-in] is important because student voices have to be heard," Dean Conine said. "You're the new culture — the new generation. What you think and feel and believe matters. It's why you're here."

New Orleans Voodoo Fest in distress

Cayla Mendow
Contributing Writer

Voodoo Music and Art Experience, traditionally a three-day music festival hosted at City Park in New Orleans, La., kicked off strongly last Friday night with artists, such as Modest Mouse, Jack U and Florence + the Machine. However, it was tragically downsized to a two-day event one hour before the gates opened Sunday, due to dangerous weather conditions and flash flooding.

A fellow student at NSU, Taylor Thomas, wisely pointed down at the ground during Clutch's set on Saturday afternoon at Altar to warn me not to move my feet too much unless we wanted to churn ourselves a muddy pit; though I knew the weather was a threat to the festivities, it didn't dawn on me that thousands of devoted fans' feet, a city that averages two feet below sea level and consistent heavy rainfall was a less-than-ideal combination for a music festival — unless it is accompanied by ATVs, country music stars and an assortment of camouflage apparel and cheap beer.

By the end of Ozzy's show on Saturday night, fans found themselves knee-deep in a bog of festival debris and sloppy mud; it was the kind of filth that you would have to hose off outside before your family would allow you near the door of their house.

Despite the rain and mud, fans and festival-goers still managed to make it out on Halloween to see the headliners: Ozzy Osbourne (featuring special guests Tom Morrello from Rage Against the Machine, Geezer Butler from Ozzy's band Black Sabbath and Slash) at Altar, Swedish EDM artist Steve Angello at Le Pleur and other openers, such as Jane's Addiction, Duke Dumont, Public Image LTD and Santigold.

Le Pleur, the EDM stage, was inconvenienced by the weather conditions because the quality of an electronic show depends on grandiose lighting, pyrotechnics and unbelievably loud speakers to create a rave environment; most of the speakers outside of stage were covered with tarps to avoid water damage and crowd electrocution, which significantly muted the sound and the experience.

The most exciting part about the EDM shows Saturday night were the confetti cannons expertly ignited throughout the show that doused fans with paper chips that stuck to wet bodies in such a way that made everyone near the front look like piñatas and chickens.

Also, a part of the stage at Steve Angello's concert caught on fire twice throughout his set, but was expertly diffused by a frantic yet brave pyro-technician; the small fires went unnoticed by most of the raging fans.

Angello finished his set with a new single expected to release towards the end of November.

Altar maintained its composure as much as it could for rock-and-roll legend Ozzy Osbourne and friends; Morgan Byrd, a senior at NSULA, commented that she "almost peed [her] pants when Tom Morello came out. He is ridiculously amazing," and "wish[ed] he would've played more than he did, but Ozzy put on a great show."

Taylor Thomas, who also happens to be a talented musician and bassist for the local Natchitoches band T-Funk, said Ozzy's show was "a unique opportunity to see several heroes (Tom Morello and Geezer Butler) of [his] to all play together."

With the help of an excited, water-logged crowd, unbelievably talented performers and a fairly impressive fireworks show, the Altar stage did not disappoint.

Despite desperate pleas from fans, the organizers of Voodoo made the responsible decision to cancel the show for the safety of the entire "Tribe": artists, crew, vendors and fans alike.

If they allowed the show to go on, the entire festival would have sunk into the ground, with the likelihood of further damage to the grounds and equipment, injuries and search and rescues from the depths of the mud and water.

It was devastating news for those excited to see the lineup for the day and get their hands on a "King Cake Burger" from the Food Drunk Truck, but safety is the number one priority.

People who bought their tickets appropriately through Voodoo's website are expected to be refunded 1/3 of the price to compensate for the cancelled third day; one-day general admission tickets for Sunday will be completely refunded.

A few artists took the stage later Sunday night at different venues in the city to ensure that the spirit lived on; Slightly Stoopid, Fishbone and like-artists took shelter at 30/90, while DJ Quickie Mart and Unicorn Fukr lead Bass Church at the Dragon's Den.

July Talk arranged a free concert at the House of Blues with the help of Ludlow Thieves.



Ozzy Osborne, Tom Morello, Geezer Butler and Slash perfom for this year's Voodoo fest in New Orleans. *Photo by Morgan Byrd*

Up close and personal

Sauce talks with Kopacetic

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer



Local band Kopacetic expected to produce EP of orginal songs and expand fan base. *Photo By Ashley Wolf*

Why did you call the band Kopacetic?

"We were looking for a great eclectic name that had great vibes, and Kopacetic came about."

- **How did you initially become a band and how long have you been together?**

We are all musicians and a part of the Creative and Performing Arts department and have a great passion for performing. We all have a dream of being successful in the music business so we were very blessed to find each other. We have been together since October of last year.

- **How would you describe your sound? Do you think your sound is still changing? Has it developed over time?**

Our sound is technical funk. It has definitely developed very well, and you can even hear our sound in our covers. The more we've gotten to know each other, our vibes and styles just automatically combine. I think our sound is more so growing than changing.

- **What is Kopacetic's song-writing process?**

Breanna: The band will usually bring me an instrumental and I'll sing with it. Sometimes I keep it but sometimes I don't; it just depends on the flow of the song. We always start with an instrumental.

- **What are Kopacetic's goals for this coming year?**

We definitely want to make a fan base in Natchitoches, and we would like to start traveling on weekends to places like Lafayette and stuff. We can't go anywhere without a fan base, so once we start building where we are, we can start playing in other places.

- **How often do you practice?**

Over the summer we dedicated practice time weekly, but now that school has started, we try to fit one in whenever we can.

- **What genres and artists inspire you?**

Breanna: "My all-time favorite artist is Stevie Wonder. I've been listening to him since I was a baby. My favorite band ever is Paramore, so Hayley Williams is a huge influence for me. In high school I started following Tori Kelly on YouTube and I followed her all the way up to now and it's just gotten bigger, so she's probably one of my favorite vocalists out there."

Jacob: "I think me, Sheldon, and Chris all come from the same kind of music background, like a lot of more technical rock stuff and hip hop and R&B. All of our different influences really come together and make it easy."

- **Do you have anything new coming out?**

An EP is in the works. It's all original music. We want to get out of covers, which have been necessary for our live sets that are pretty long. People wouldn't want to listen to us if they didn't know what songs we're singing—at least for night now while our fan base is still growing.

- **Get to know Kopacetic:**

Vocalist Breanna Collier is a senior musical theatre major better known as Breonce. She is the perfect mix between Beyonce and Beyonce. Bass Guitarist Chuck Gallaher who is always disregarding females and acquiring currency, is an avid golfer and mint chocolate chip ice cream enthusiast. Guitarist Sheldon Busby enjoys the delicacies of a great PB&J sandwich and has nightmares about losing his "gains."

Guitarist Jacob Bryant makes the best chicken nuggets in the band and enjoys doing hoodrat things with his friends, while drummer Chris Ball likes turtles.

SOUNDCLOUD kopaceticmusic



Race, gender become open to
campus after Instagram photo

How those in the photos responded

Student who posted the Caitlyn Jenner picture:
I would like to start off by saying I'm sorry for offending anyone, and that was never my intention. This costume was merely a costume for a private Halloween party. Before deciding upon the costume, I checked the statement made by Caitlyn Jenner in which she approved of the costume. I would like everyone to know that it was never my intention to offend or make anyone feel uncomfortable. I understand that it was a bad decision on my part and poor judgement and I am sorry for that. I would like to move forward past this as a Demon Family. I am and always will be a member of the NSU family and I will always accept anyone and everyone for who they are. I apologize for this choice but realize we as a student body must move past this to make any type of progress as one Demon Family.

A portion of the statement released on Facebook by athletics and the students in the blackface picture:
We feel very badly that we didn't realize the history involved and how offensive white people putting on blackface is for many people of all races. If one person was offended, that is too many. All we can do from here is apologize, hope for forgiveness and understanding, and work toward this resulting in people at NSU and elsewhere being aware of issues like this and the vital need for sensitivity and understanding of our fellow man. We can only control our actions, and along those lines, our players, coaches and staff are going to go through sensitivity training to ensure we all fully appreciate the issues involved, and grow from this experience. We also are going to do extra community service work, including activities that will help strengthen understanding of diversity concerns in our society.



Four students posted a picture on Instagram featuring one of the students wearing blackface.
3-4 weeks ago

Oct. 30
Two students posted a photo on Instagram depicting them dressed as pre- and post-transition Caitlyn Jenner.



A student shared the blackface photo on the Northwestern State Student Concerns Facebook page. Minutes later the post was deleted.
Nov. 1, 10:45 p.m.

Nov. 2, approximately 1 p.m.
A second student posted the blackface photo on the Concerns page, again asking for answers.

A student posted on the Concerns page asking why concerns are being silenced. Thirty minutes late the post was deleted.
Nov. 2, 2:45 p.m.

Nov. 2, between 3-4 p.m.
A student posted the photo of students dressed as Caitlyn Jenner, pre- and post-transition, commenting that action should be taken. The post is deleted by 4:41 p.m.

"Our athletics administration has already taken steps to address the matter with a focus on education. We will use this hurtful circumstance to show NSU is committed to providing an environment of inclusion, and the university is willing to do the work necessary to ensure all students feel welcome."
Frances Conine, Dean of Students
[Post made on Concerns page]
Nov. 2, 3:05 p.m.

Dr. Henderson emailed the NSU community apologizing for the offensive actions that occured and promised that responses to the actions are "on their way."
"Moments of truth are catalysts for change and opportunities to get better. I believe you will be proud of your university in the weeks and months ahead. Right now, people are hurting. For that, I am sorry.
[Excert from Henderson's email to NSU community
Nov. 3, 7:09 a.m.

Nov. 3, 11:39 a.m.
A formal complaint was turned into the Dean of Students regarding the Caitlyn Jenner costume photo.

"We feel very badly that we didn't realize the history involved and how offensive white people putting on blackface is for many people of all races. If one person was offended that is too many."
[Excerpt from athletes public apology, posted on Northwestern State Demons Facebook page}
Nov. 3, 3:47 p.m.

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pics on NSU's os come to light

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"We will not single out individual students for what they do in their private lives nor will insults heaved at each other on this forum be tolerated."
Shayne Creppel, Assistant Director of Greek Life and SGA Advisor
[Post on Concerns page explaining why the Caitlyn
Nov. 2, 4:41 p.m.

Athletics director Greg Burke and head baseball coach Lane Burroughs issued a statement on the blackface photo. They informed the public that the team and staff will do community service work to make amends.
"We're all disappointed in the decision these young men made. Their actions were not malicious but nonetheless disrespectful," said Burke.
Nov. 2, 7:22 p.m.

Planning for an assembly on the Kyser Brickway starts. The date is set for Nov. 4 at noon.
Nov. 2, 10:20 p.m.

Nov. 2, 4:08 p.m.
A student posted on the Concerns page, highlighting the inequlity on campus between NPHC and CPC: *"Yet, an NPHC fraternity fights off campus and gets suspended off campus. Or the fact that CPC has an entire row of houses yet NPHC only have benches that are overlooked unless you actually know that they are there. Does this just not look fair to me or do we really need a change in our campus."*

Nov. 2, 6-6:34 p.m.
Students and representatives voice their opinions on the days occurrences at the SGA meeting.

Nov. 2, 8:26 p.m.
The Northwestern State Student Concerns Facebook page changes its settings to become a private group.

Assemblers march from Kyser to flagpole repeating chants that encourage inclusivity. "2,4,6,8 Demons don't forkin' hate!"
Nov. 4, during teach-in

Assemblers end the teach-in by standing up and introducing themselves to three crowd members they've never met before.
Nov. 4, 12:57 p.m

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Nov. 4, Noon
Students gather at Kyser Brickway to begin the teach-in.

Nov. 4, during teach-in
A handful of students from the teach-in take turns addressing the crowd on the relevant issues. Two recited activist poetry. The remaining participants in the teach-in sit on Kyser Brickway showing their statement signs to students, faculty and staff observing the teach-in.

Q&A with Dr. Allison M. Rittmayer

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

With the multiple questions about gender issues recently raised on campus, The Current Sauce asked a professor to provide insight from an intellectual perspective. Dr. Rittmayer, assistant professor of English and film studies and director of undergraduate studies for her department, answers questions that students had on the Facebook page. She teaches film and literature courses on gender issues.

Q: "Is the Jenner Halloween costume offensive to the transgender community? If so, why?"

A: "I would say, yes, it is. I think there are multiple reasons why. The biggest problem with it is the way the costume references pre-transition Caitlyn's identity. It implies that these are two different people and that there is a distinct before and after; the costume does not acknowledge the continuity of the person. It represents two different people when, in fact, Caitlyn is one person. Additionally, I perceived that the logistics of having a women dress with the Bruce sign and having a man dressed with the Caitlyn sign is not respectful. It's misrepresentative. It can be seen as mocking the transition process."

Q: "How is this anything different from drag?"

A: "Drag is about performing a whole identity. Drag also has different intent wrapped up in the acknowledgement that gender is something we perform, not something determined. People in drag get to take the costume off. Transgender people are not wearing a costume— it is not something they put on."

Q: "What do you mean when you say gender is performed?"

A: "Gender is not something that is set in stone. It is not a result of biology or chemistry. It is a set of expressions. It is a set of social expectations and characteristics that overtime have become conventions. It is a social construct. It is a thing that changes over time. As much as we think of gender as something concrete, we can easily see that gender identity does not mean the same thing to people in all places at all times."

Q: "Caitlyn said the costume was funny— should we still worry about this?"

A: "Yes. Caitlyn Jenner is in a very privileged position. She is a celebrity. She is wealthy. She has had a lot of support. She is an adult. So, she is insulated from some of the struggles of trans people across the country and world. She is not in the same position as a teenager or college student who's trying to figure out how to exist and survive as a trans person, so the costume can mean very different things to different people— even in the trans community. While Caitlyn doesn't have to be worried about being singled out or mocked by her peers or targeted for hate crimes, those are concerns that most people live with. For someone who experiences transphobia on a daily basis, this costume is just one more sign of the world being against them."

Q: "If the trans community is so small at NSU, why should students still care about a Halloween costume?"

A: "We should respect everyone— it's not a question of, 'How many people do I need to respect?' Students should care that their fellow students are hurt by these images."

Q: "Do you think that students get too offended when it comes to these subjects?"

A: "Are there degrees of being offended? Is being just a little offended worse than being completely offended? I think the important thing is that someone got offended. I think that what's more important than how offended someone is is what they do with those emotions— whether they use them to foster positive change or whether they allow their emotions to eat them up."

NS'U' Voice

What do you think about women getting their MRS degrees?



Sophomore, Sacred Music Education Major

"College is too costly to come in just to find a husband. I haven't come across anyone who is here simply to find a husband."



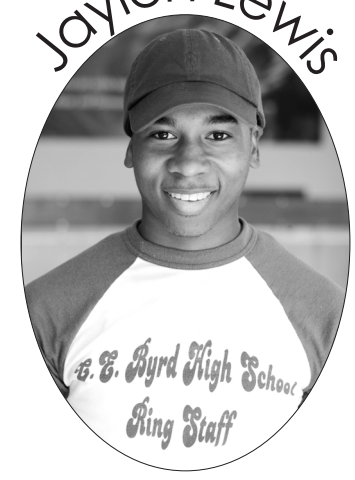
Senior, Psychology & Addiction Studies Major

"I personally feel like all individuals who attend college do plan on becoming prosperous. So, this isn't a bad looking ground. My situation personally though, school comes first because even if I don't find a man, I will always have my degrees."



Senior, Family and Consumer Science Major

"I think that some women do still come to college to get their MRS and not B.S, or B.A. However, I don't think it is wrong to look for your true love while you are getting your B.A, or B.S. I do not know of anyone who is just looking for their MRS."



Sophomore, Business Administration Major

"As a male, I feel that there are some women who still come to college looking for their "MAN." Walking to class, you may hear a woman state, "Oh, he's going to have a good job, make good money or has a nice car." But then, sometimes, you do have couples that come for education and end up being together for all the right reasons."

Check out **The Current Sauce** online at www.currentsaucenews.com. You can also find us on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. Past issues can found through the traditions site on www.nsula.edu.

NSU Snaps Back

Jade Williams
Contributing Writer

Recently, the username nsula.snap was created on the social media app, Snapchat. NSU and LSMSA students sent in videos and photos that caused a great deal of controversy because of their content. Upon viewing some of the content, I saw common evidence of college students. However, some students posted photos of alcoholic beverages, smoke sessions and their bare bodies.

The typical controversy seems to be the question, what does this say about our university? My argument is, why does it have to say anything at all? I do not agree with broadcasting all of your antics, but no one is a saint. The Snapchat My Story exposes what are regular under-the-table activities as far as a university goes.

Whether we admit it or not, people drink, smoke and, occasionally, like some flashing. It may not be displayed as often, but Ivy League schools do the same- not because 'that's what college kids do,' but that is what we as people do. Different people have different methods of having fun and entertaining themselves, as well as others. Their methods should not represent the university as a whole.

What's wrong with Blackface?

Essie Hullaby
Contributing Writer

For those of us in need of a history lesson, blackface started in the 1830s when whites would cover their faces in black grease paint, impersonating their views of plantation slaves.

The term Jim Crow originated in 1830 when a white show performer, Thomas "Daddy" Rice blackened his face and danced while singing the lyrics to "Jump Jim Crow," a slave folk song. Slaves were seen as stupid and uneducated and weren't seen as people by some.

At the time, a lot of slaves were illiterate because their owners prohibited reading and writing. Cartoons of blacks in the years to follow usually had big noses, big lips and they weren't the smartest in the bunch.

Why is something that happened so long ago still offensive today? Regardless of intentions behind blackface in 2015, the images from the 19th and 20th century of what blacks were looked to be like are still burned in my head.

So when I see blackface today, my question is: Is that still how you view me? I've been going to school with you since pre-K, and this is how you view people of my color?

When you make fun of one, you make fun of all. Just because your one black friend told you that they would be okay with the "costume" doesn't mean all blacks will be okay with the costume. What hurts me the most out of these blackface incidents is not the actual mockery, but the defense of it.

No one is allowed to tell another person how he or she should or should not feel. No one is allowed to tell someone that what they believe in, what they fight for, what they live through every single day is stupid just because he or she does not understand it or does not want to understand it.

When blackface is done, in my head I am thinking that no matter how properly I speak, no matter how many degrees I earn, no matter how much my car costs I am still viewed as just a black girl with big lips and a big nose who got by with the help of affirmative action. Even if that's not your intention, that is still what goes through my head.

Imitation is the best form of flattery, but that being imitated should not include my skin tone. So if you want to dress up as a Black-American role model so badly, imitate their sense of style, their intellect or their legacy.

Trans student speaks out against local antagonism

Airrol Angelle
Contributing Writer

On Nov. 2, students concerned about Northwestern State University's sexist, racist and trans-antagonistic atmosphere voiced their observations on the college's SGA Student Concern's Facebook page.

We were met with overt silencing tactics and little support. The page's administrator took down some of our posts and comments.

The admin used loopholes to justify their reasons for taking down our posts and comments, but I think these particular posts were removed to protect the antagonists whose comments were not removed.

In my opinion, the way that tche situation was handled on Facebook sends a clear message that antagonists on this campus have support in their right to hate others. This is teaching them that being politically correct gets your voice taken away, and being antagonistic of marginalized groups gets you praise.

Antagonists should not be treated as untouchables. Freedom of speech is not in the Constitution to tell bullies that it is their right to hurt others. NSU should be protecting the students offended by the actions and words of these antagonists.

Those that defended their fellow antagonists by saying the Halloween costumes pictured on the page did not intend to hurt anyone are wrong. People are hurt by these costumes, and intentions do not heal our hurt.

If the pair would have researched the costume thoroughly, they would have come across the hundreds of articles written by the trans community about how offensive this costume actually is.

It is possible that these students read an article which quoted Jenner being okay with the costume. However, CAITLYN JENNER IS JUST A CELEBRITY, SHE DOES NOT REPRESENT ALL TRANS FOLK.

Therefore, her privileged opinion of trans as a costume is not the end-all-be-all opinion of the trans community.

I am personally offended by the couple who wore the Caitlyn Jenner before and after transition costume. This costume and the support it received from antagonists is a form of harassment against the trans community. A hostile "them against us" environment has been created on campus.

This may come as a shock to NSU, but the U.S. has laws that protect its citizens from discrimination and harassment based on sex, gender and race.

I am not going to be silenced any longer. I am not going to accept ignorance as an excuse. I am no longer distributing unearned forgiveness. I am not going to patiently wait for change.

I demand to be recognized as an equal. I demand justice. This is a small campus, not the whole world. Small scale change should not take this long.

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HALLOWEEK AT NSU

Right: On Oct. 30, University Place 1 and 2 residences are welcomed by residence life staff with food and games for the Halloween party held in the UP Clubhouse.

Below: As Dr. Frank-N-Furter, the main character of "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," makes their entrance on stage, the excitement in the air increases. The Student Theatre Organization perfomed the show on Halloween night for a fundraiser. *Photos by Steven Sheerin*











Beignet and coffee shop to open in January

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The 'American'experience for an international

Page 6

Quidditch team takes on regional tournament

Page 11



THE CURRENTSAUCE



How one class project turned into a *movement*

Kayla Ryan
Contributing Writer

Sitting in Dr. Foster's Small Group Dynamics class, a group of students were given an assignment to solve one problem on campus. Little did Courtney Billiot, Karla Ewing, Josh Fontenot, Devon Hamm and Pearlie Jones know they would develop a new student organization: Demons Support Demons (DSD).

"We chose the topic because we each know someone who was a victim of sexual assault," DSD founder Courtney Billiot said.

Demons Support Demons' main goal is to support survivors of sexual assault and to give hope and guidance to victims. According to Notalone.gov, "One in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted in college," but "only 13 percent of rape survivors report assault."

"We want to let the students know that change happens when a single voice is heard," DSD supervisor Lori LeBlanc said. "Typically victims do not come back to school after getting assaulted, and we want them to know we are here for them."

The group has hosted a series of informationals and will even attend basketball games with the boards of the signatures of all the students who have pledged to support their fellow Demons. The next event students can participate in is Walk a Mile in Their Shoes, a mile-long walk starting at the student union in honor of all the victims. The event will take place thisThursday, Nov. 12, at 4:30 p.m.

Continued on Back

Edwards visits city, leads by 12 percent

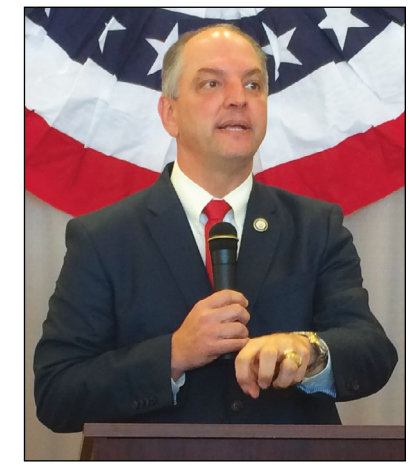
Meg Denny
Staff Writer

Gubernatorial candidate John Bel Edwards is traveling Louisiana in an attempt to gain supporters before the runoff election on Nov. 21. He stopped in Natchitoches on Nov. 6 to discuss the top issues of his campaign: education, incarceration rate and healthcare.

According to a poll by JMC analytics conducted after the announcement of a runoff, Edwards is leading on Vitter with 52 percent of the Louisiana people's votes.

The decline in Vitter's popularity might come from the recent scandals his campaign has faced. Edwards promotes strong family values while Vitter's scandals have marginalized him to the far right.

"The faith that we have in the people of Louisiana has been renewed," Edwards said when speaking about how his travels have greatly benefited his attitude towards the runoff election.



John Bel Edwards delivers a speech at the Natchitoches Event Center during run-off tour. *Photo Creative Commons*

Additionally, he talked about Vitter's negative campaign against him and defended himself against Vitter's allegations, such as the claim that Edwards plans to rapidly release 5,000 people from prison during his time in office.

Continued on Page 3



Seniors Taylor Nelson and Garrett Pierce participate in a mock trial for Marie Antoinette and Louis XVI as part of their French Revolution course in the Scholars' College. A guillotine was brought in for their beheading. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Edwards visits city, leads by 12 percent

contd. from front

Edwards began the discussion on education by talking about budget cuts Northwestern State University has recently faced. According to the candidate, Northwestern has suffered from 60 percent less funding in the past few years.

"We have been failing our kids here long enough," the democratic candidate said. "That stops here." President Jim Henderson attended the event, and he and Edwards had a conversation after the speech in which Henderson introduced Edwards to a few of NSU's students, including members of NSULA Pride and the Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance. The Student Government Association president also came to the event.

Calling the education cuts Louisiana has recently experienced the "perfect recipe for disaster in our state," Edwards promised to systematically fix the funding issues."



From left:Trey Roberts, Grant Rabalais, John Bel Edwards, NSU Alum Cody-Dean Whitaker and SGA President Mathew Whitaker *Submitted photo*

"Structural problems require structural solutions," the candidate said.

Edwards then moved on to the issue of declining health care in the state of Louisiana. He again promised a systematic solution that would require working with both Republican and Democratic officials. "This isn't right versus left; this is right versus wrong," Edwards said.

On the issue of Louisiana having the highest incarceration rate in the country, Edwards promised to lower the amount of people in jail.

According to the candidate, he will do this by offering those who commit drug and property crimes other programs to help them get back on their feet. Additionally, he wants to send those in jail with mental illnesses to hospitals instead.

"I aspire to at least be number two in the nation in incarcerations," Edwards joked, referring to Louisiana being at the top of the list, above Mississippi.

Edwards concluded by encouraging people to vote. Early voting ends on Veterans Day, and he encouraged people to "vote for the veteran," meaning himself.

The candidate emphasized the power of prayer along with his ability to lead the people of Louisiana to a better state of living.

"The stakes are too high to trust someone who only divides… We've got to bring the people together," Edwards said. He went on to describe himself as truthful and uniting. According to Edwards, he is the candidate with "the heart to put Louisiana first."

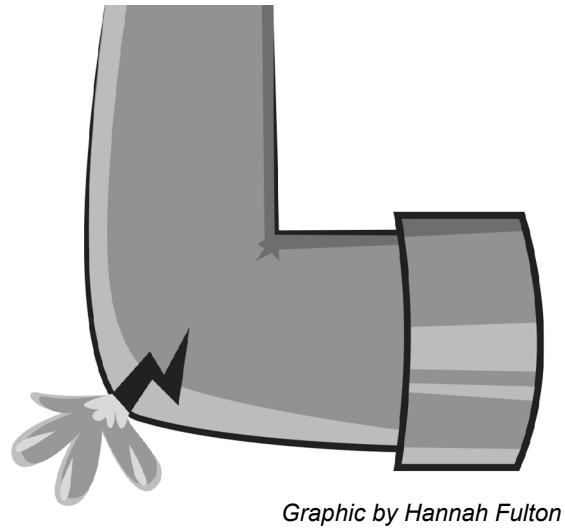
Busted water tank leaves students without hot water

Jade Williams
Contributing Writer

The dormitories around campus have been experiencing a hot water shortage due to a hot water tank that ruptured a few weeks ago. Some students have complained about their lukewarm showers. Junior Logan Ashley thinks that some work orders are more urgent than others.

"Often times, the maintenance orders are completed by temporary fixes," she said. "These short-term repairs often cause more of a hassle to fix than if they were just repaired properly in the first place."

Sophomore Shamolia Williams estimated a 24-hour response to her maintenance requests.



Graphic by Hannah Fulton

"The light above my kitchen sink went out and the entire light was replaced the first time they came," Williams said.

An email sent out to residents apologized for the inconvenience, explained progress made so far and gave a number for any questions or concerns. A new hot water tank arrived earlier than expected.

Housing ensures a speedy installation and that hot water will run through the pipes again. Stephanie Dyjack, the director of housing and residential life, said that a replacement tank had been ordered and was expected to arrive and to be installed Nov. 10.

Police Blotter

- 11/03/15, Vehicle Collision, University Columns
- 11/03/15, Suspicious Activity, Kyser Hall
- 11/03/15, Fire Alarm, Prudhomme Hall, False Alarm
- 11/03/15, Audible Alarm, NCPTC, False Alarm
- 11/04/15, Battery, University Place 1
- 11/04/15, Drug Law Violation, Varnado Hall
- 11/05/15, HPE Building
- 11/06/15, Harassment, Various
- 11/07/15, Property Damage
- 11/07/15, Welfare Concern, University Place 1
- 11/06/15, Theft from Vehicle, Turnpin Parking
- 11/08/15, Harassment, Open
- 11/08/15, Hit and Run Upper Parking Lot 25
- 11/08/15, Fire Alarm, Varnado Hall

Student Government Association Weekly Meeting Minutes

Monday, Nov. 9

- Next Monday, SGA will vote on debate speakers for January. The topic is police militarization.
- SGA is looking into revamping the rules on the Student Concerns Facebook Page.
- Speakers to bring KNWD's music all around campus are a possibility.
- The state of the Iberville bathrooms is being investigated. Waiting on response.
- Matthew Whitaker and Sen. Tre Nelson will attend the New Hampshire Primary, the first voting event in the primary elections.
- Continue work on TVs in Grill 155.
- Meet Your Senator Day Wednesday Nov. 11 on Kyser Brickway 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Guest speaker Dr. Lori Hart to speak after the meeting in the ballroom. Sessions at 7 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- The president, Matthew Whitaker and vice president Chantasia Gratsy are on the search committee to find a new provost. Dr. Abney has changed positions as a field researcher for NSU.

Beignets bring a taste of the 'Big Easy'

Bennett's Beignets to open in January

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

Warm, fluffy fried bread topped with powdered sugar and paired with coffee creates a flavorful southern combination.

Bennett's Beignets will serve these traditional French pastries as the newest addition to Natchitoches's small businesses. Owners Hillary and Jeremy Bennet have a passion for the traditional French dish and gourmet coffee. They currently have a booth at the Cane River Green Market, Saturdays, on the Riverfront. They offer beignets, in various order sizes, coffee and hot chocolate. They bring the homemade, hand-cut, hand-rolled dough and fry it at the booth per order.

Bennett's Beignets will be serving traditional Louisiana beignets and gourmet coffee at their Front St. location. They will be opening January 2016. Their original opening date was scheduled to be this month but had to be delayed because they could not find a way around their ventilation system in the original space. The exhaust would have been too close to the residential balconies of the St. Denis condo building. They had to move locations, Jeremy explained, "If you go down the breezeway we're going to be the last place on the left," rather than facing Lafayette St.

This move caused them to have to restart their design and postpone their opening. Mid-to-late January is their best guess for a new tentative opening date.

Until then, they will continue to serve at the Cane River Green Market and plan to be present during Natchitoches' annual Christmas Festival of Lights.

"We will be partnering with the Sport's Hall of Fame," Hillary said. "We will be right on their door steps." The Bennetts are new to Louisiana but wanted to move to a small town where they could raise their girls, spend time with their family and get out of the fast-paced environment. They have two daughters, ages 11 and 8. After the business oil and gas industry fell out, the Bennetts became more seriously interested in creating a small business.

The idea of a beignet shop began as a joke after they noticed a lack in the town. They are blessed to have family in town that will give them enough balance to make a lifestyle change for this business.

In reference to his old job, Jeremy said, "I can't really say I loved it. This gives me an opportunity to do something I love." It is more work for less money, but he enjoys making people happy. Jeremy explained that when they set out, they were not making a business to get rich.

He explained that their goal is to "make something culturally rich to Natchitoches."
"It felt like it would fit in here," he said. They realized not a lot of businesses are embracing the French heritage. Along the process of opening this business, they have become beignet connoisseurs.

Hillary and Jeremy have also developed a passion for gourmet coffee. They want to do coffee better than Starbucks. They want to offer a unique experience by having a passion for and knowledge of coffee. The coffee will be shipped to and roasted in New Orleans, then within 24 hours it will arrive at their Front St. shop.

"We are pretty proud of our coffee," Jeremy said. They will not serve any coffee beans that are over a week old from the time of their roasting.

"We want to be able to do something that Starbucks is not able to," he said.

He said the shop will have WiFi and plugs along the wall.

"We want to encourage people to hang out," Hillary stated. "A home away from home."

They will have an outdoor seating area in the breezeway. They are planning to create programs for their employees that include coffee education and bonuses for good grades at the end of each semester.

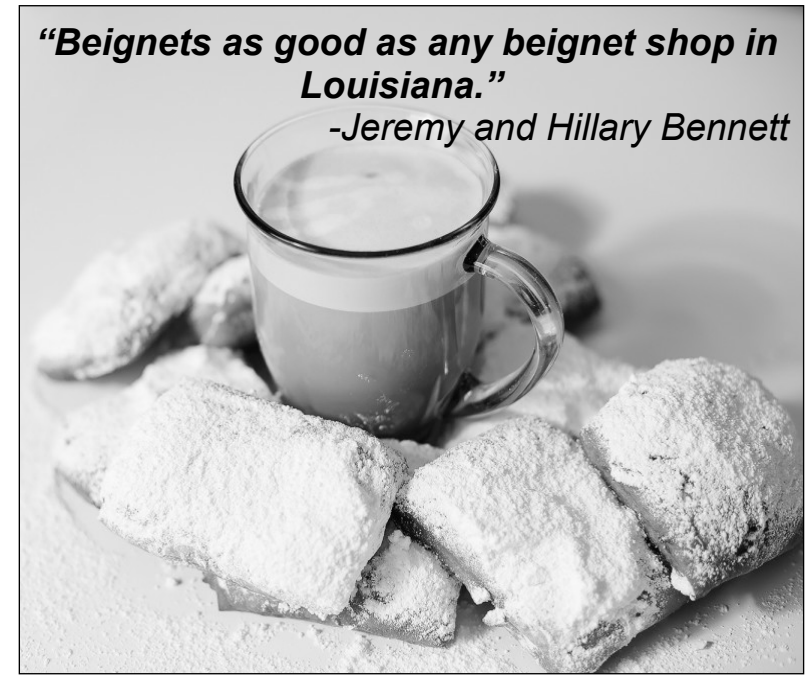
"We want the type of place where really smart people want to work," Jeremy said. He understands that most of their employees will be students, and he hopes that they can offer a positive college work environment that promotes a successful future.

"This is a family business," Hillary explained. They will be working managers and plan to be in the store. They plan to perfect serving beignets and gourmet coffee then listen to the customers for adding other options.



Hillary prepares her perfected beignets. *Photo by Rachel Procell*





Gourmet coffee will be served alongside the French-style pastries. *Photo by Rachel Procell*

What to watch, Redbox edition: 'Inside Out'

"If you're a psychology major, check out this movie. If you are a person, check out this movie."

Cayla Mendow
Contributing Writer

Disney Pixar's movie "Inside Out" is now available on DVD/Blu Ray. If you missed the film in theaters, it might be worth the investment to rent it from RedBox.

With a 98 percent rating from Rotten Tomatoes, you don't need an amateur review to tell you that this movie will be critically ranked as one of the best Pixar movies of all time, but I will tell you this: "Inside Out" is probably one of the best Pixar movies of all time.

"Inside Out" is about an eleven-year-old named Riley who was uprooted from her comfortable life in Minnesota to move across the country with her parents to California. The main characters are not exclusively Riley, but the emotions living inside her head: Joy (Amy Poehler), Sadness (Phyllis Smith), Anger (Lewis Black), Fear (Bill Hader) and Disgust (Mindy Kaling).

By personifying our core emotions, Pixar created a brilliant way to understand how our minds process emotions.

Through the interactions of Riley's emotions in "Inside Out," we are taught that each emotion serves a purpose in our development.

We are also taught how easily emotions can alter our memories and reality, which is a pivotal concept in the comprehension of our interactions with other people.

The audience is shown how emotions are a universal characteristic of the human experience; each character in the film was navigated differently depending on which emotion was in control.

For Riley, her main emotion was joy, whereas her mother's leading emotion was sadness and her father's was anger. Though their behavior was guided by their strongest emotion, all the other emotions cooperated to transform into a specific personality that was equally valuable.

This movie targets a demographic that would benefit from a simplified way to understand how we think and feel: everyone.

If you're a psychology major, check out this movie. If you are a person, check out this movie.

With a talented cast, hilarious plot, expert aesthetic and strong educational philosophy, one's bound to find at least one aspect of the movie that can be appreciated.

At the end of "Inside Out," I was ready for more, so I hope Pixar blesses us with many more sequels, especially if Riley goes to college.

I think all of us could use a little help understanding our emotions as finals week rapidly approaches.

Unfortunately, various internet sources claim that the director Pete Docter doesn't foresee a sequel anytime in the near future.

That doesn't diminish the potency of the lessons one can learn from "Inside Out," especially in a time when people are questioning the importance of political correctness and compassion for others.

What to watch, Netflix edition: '6 years'

"It would appear the Duplass brothers have done it again!"

Hammond Lake
Contributing Writer

The fraternal filmmaking duo that brought audiences "Jeff Who Lives at Home" and "Safety Not Guaranteed" has returned to produce "6 Years," a dramatic look at young love that recently premiered at the SXSW Film Festvial in Austin, Texas.



Featuring a seasoned young actress (Tessa Farmiga), a breakout new talent (Ben Rosenfield) and a preview trailer that looks like it fell straight from indie Heaven, it truly would appear that the film "6 Years" was destined for greatness. However, looks can be deceiving.

Focusing on the tumultuous, six-year relationship between Texas hipsters Mel (Farmiga) and Dan (Rosenfield), the film also tends to reflect the natural progression of the main characters' relationship: it starts strongly, lags in the middle and then abruptly ends long past when it should have.

After establishing Mel and Dan as a happy couple in the opening scenes of the film, things begin to turn sour when Mel decides to stumble home drunk from a party one night, resulting in a fight between the two lovebirds.

After a trip to the emergency room for Dan and a trip to the tissue box for the tear-streaked Mel, the couple decides to reunite.

From this point on, the movie seems to rinse and repeat similar fighting and yelling scenes for roughly 45 minutes.

That all changes, though, when Dan decides to drunkenly make-out with a coworker at a party that his music internship hosts; this mistake proves to be fruitful, however, when it subsequently results in a job offer to run a new branch for a record-label in New York.

At this turn, Mel and Dan must now decide whether to stay together or break up.

The main source of strength in this film comes from the cast. Newcomer Ben Rosenfield (previously of "A Most Violent Year") commands each scene he's in; he plays the mundane Dan with a subtle, yet electric force, giving the character a natural aura of relaxation and humor while also possessing a restrained fury, quietly brimming under the surface until it presents itself in one of the numerous altercations he has with Mel.

Tessa Farmiga shines in her role, quickly establishing her character to be comprised of many layers.

Although she seems to approach the role effortlessly, she does overact at times; she isn't quite "Shatneresque" in her method, but she tends to predominately ham it up in the fight scenes between her and Rosenfield, intensely hyperventilating after each confrontation to the point of absurdity.

The film ultimately acts as a poorly-done mash up of "Like Crazy" and "Blue Valentine," all the while beautifully shot by master cinematographer, Andrew Droz Palermo.

It has the feel of the recent Gia Coppola effort, "Palo Alto," except with a less impressive script.

The actors redeem the story, fighting their hearts out (literally) and trying to save not only their relationship but also this film.

Around the world in six musical pieces

Julia Barry
Contributing Writer

Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony satisfied the wanderlust of audiences in its recent concert "Travel Portraits," through musical pieces inspired by travel destinations around the world, Thursday, Nov. 5 at 7:30 p.m.

The first piece, George Phillip Telemann's "Overture-Suite," featured melodic music inspired by mythical Greek and Roman sea creatures.

Felix Mendelssohn's "The Hebrides Overture" was next. In the piece he depicts the emotion of exploring the inside of Fingal's Cave, a sea cave on the Island of Staffa in Scotland which is composed of hexagonal basalt columns.

The third piece played, "Vltava" by Bedřich Smetana, depicts scenes down the Moldau River in Prague.

The next movements of music were more energetic and contained more active rhythms to depict the scenes that their composers saw. "Travel Sketches," written by NSU Alumni Nettie Chenevert, depicted scenes she saw and the history of the places she traveled to in Greece and Italy.

The pieces, originally written for piano, were rewritten specifically for the performance.

"She played these piano pieces for me and told me about the places she had visited that inspired the music. I told her if she orchestrates it we will perform it," said Conductor Dr. Douglass Bakenhus.

The next piece was N. Raminsky-Korsakov's "Russian Easter Festival Overture." In the piece, the symphony depicted the energy of the celebration of New Life in the Russian Orthodox Catholic faith. The music in the piece moves from the rhythmic sound of traditional sounding church music to the more energetic and soft sound that invokes the feeling of the changes of spring slowly but surely occurring.

The final piece "Danzón No. 2" by Arturo Márquez seemed to evoke the most response from the audience with its rhythmic Latin style that portrays the dances he saw on his journeys through Vera Cruz, Mexico.

The orchestra welcomed guest percussionists Jair Morelos Castilla, Fabian Correa Guette and Juan Santos Sierra.

To junior music business major Jasmon Clayton, what made the piece standout was "The very Latin feel to [the rhythm of] Danzon. It was really interesting to hear an orchestra's take on that."

The concert music was accompanied by the slideshows that "actually enhanced the music a lot. I felt that with each picture it portrayed the essence of the music that was written and what the writer may have felt or seen at the time that they were writing that music. So it's like you are looking through someone else's eyes," said Clayton.

"Music is supposed to portray an image into your head." said junior music business major Charles Gallagher.

The performance literally and figuratively accomplished this feat.



NSU Symphony Orchestra performance accompanied by a slideshow depicting exotic locations from across the globe.
Photo by Hannah Richardson



Northwestern State University symphony orchestra warms up before "Travel Portraits" perfomance Nov. 5 in Magale Hall.
Photo by Hannah Richardson



The weather inspires senior Reginald Williams to try this cardigan and polka dot ensemble. *Photo by Tyra Morrison*

Demon Style

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

Like the polka-dots on his shirt, Reginald Williams, a communications major, was spotted being fashionable in Vic's.

What's your inspiration for this outfit?
"The weather."

Do you have any fashion advice?
"Wear what you are comfortable in. People tend not to do that. They try to dress like the season, but it's not comfortable. Clearly, we only have two seasons in Louisiana, so yeah! Dress what you're comfortable in. That's my advice. "

Any on-campus pet peeves that aggravate you fashionably?
"I see a LOT of things that aggravate me fashionably! But I can't say nothing because it ain't my clothes. But yes, I see a lot of things... all the time."

How does this outfit affect your vibe for the day?
"Good. It's a good feel. I feel that if you look good, you feel good. That's the biggest thing for me!"

Is America truly the best?

Foriegn exchange students share views on American college life

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

For a location like Natchitoches, Louisiana, Northwestern State University has a surprising amount of non-American students in its population. Students from Colombia, Japan, Serbia and other countries all attend NSU.

The question we have for these students who traveled to this small Southern town is simply this: Do you feel comfortable? According to a few, the answer is a mixture of yes and no.

The music performance major discussed the lack of discrimination in Colombia versus the rising racism in America.

"Even with a PhD, people can still be racist," Paternina said. "It all depends on personal education and thought."

Paternina hesitated to talk about college students in America because he did not want to suffer any consequences. According to Paternina, this fear is partly due to the lack of gun control in America and the increase in school shootings.

"Somebody with a gun might get angry with what I say," he noted.

Despite his hesitations, Paternina claimed that everyone at NSU typically treats him kindly. He believes people are nice to him in America because he consciously tries to be respectful at all times.

In contrast, Japanese exchange students Kanako Terachi and Miku Takahashi both agreed that they feel "more open" in America.

"Many men open doors for me here, and people greet me to say hello even if they're strangers," Takahashi said. Terachi added that she receives compliments from strangers often, which is something that does not typically happen in Japan.

Additionally, both students found the American college classroom to be a more active experience.

"In Japan we just sit there," Terachi said. "We don't have to talk." Takahashiadded that American students are very opinionated, and they do not hold back in class.

"I like the activeness, but sometimes it's embarrassing," Takahashi said. "I want to say my opinion, of course, but I can't keep up with the topics because American students change them so fast."

The communication majors have run into a few annoyances since starting at NSU. Terachi humorously commented on the lack of cleanliness in the bathrooms she has encountered.

"I always sat on the toilet here in America; I didn't realize you weren't supposed to do that in the cafeteria or the gas stations," she said.

If the juniors could change anything about American students it would be their messy behavior. Also, Takahashi observed that many university students lack respect in the U.S.

"They don't care as much about others; they will play their music as loud as they want," she said.

Despite the negative aspects of college life in America, all three students agreed that many Americans have good attitudes.

Different countries carry with them different social attitudes and culture. Somehow, these seem to mix at Northwestern State, even if the mixing is a little awkward.

American college life certainly follows many of its stereotypes. However, with respect and kindness, American college students can add something to an international student's experience.

"They don't care about looks as much here," Terachi said. "The important thing is their character, and I love that."



Japanese exchange students Kanako Terachi and Miku Takahashi speak on the American college experience, expectations vs. reality. *Photo by Alec Horton*



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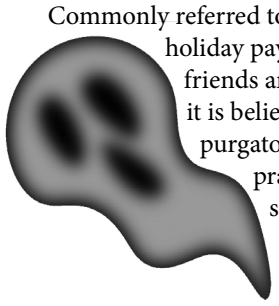
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Important and Little-Known November Holidays

by: Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

All Soul's Day



Commonly referred to as "The Day of the Dead," this Christian holiday pays respect and remembers the souls of all friends and loved ones who have died. Upon death, it is believed in some cultures that souls remain in purgatory because of previous sins and outside prayer helps cleanse the souls of the departed so that they can be received in heaven.

Dunce Day



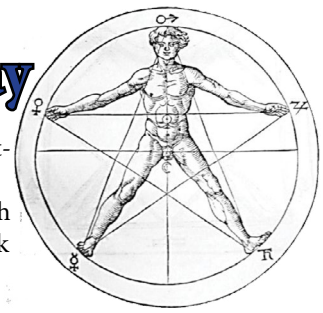
Scotus of Duns, Scotland, was a medieval scholar, and his views ranged from brilliant to less than complimentary. He theorized that cone-shaped hats increased learning potential because knowledge would flow from the point of the cap down into the head of the wearer, making that person smarter. At that time, people believed him, but since his theory proved untrue, anyone wearing the hat was referred to as a "dunce."



Veterans Day

This is an official United States public holiday that honors military veterans, that is, persons who served in the United States.

Occult Day



This holiday is a mystery, but doesn't stop it from being celebrated. Its origins are unknown, and those who involve themselves with it are secret. Still, it is a day to look into the unnatural and unusual.

World "Hello" Day



The objective of World Hello Day is to promote world peace. The theme of this day is "Greet ten people for peace" and voice your concern for world peace. The holiday was created during the 1973 conflict between Egypt and Israel. The creators were Brian McCormack and Michael McCormack, who thought world peace started with communication, hence the greeting to ten people.

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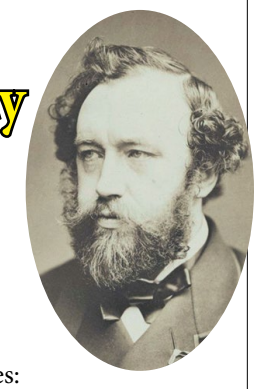
All Saint's Day



This holiday honors and recognizes over 10,000 saints of the Catholic Church, many of whom were martyrs. It's historically known as "Hallomas."

Saxophone Day





This year, Google commemorated the 201st birthday of Adolphe Sax, a Belgian musical instrument maker. He invented eight types of saxophones: sopranino, soprano, alto, tenor, baritone, bass, contrabass and subcontrabass. The first saxophone ever created was the bass saxophone. The ninth and smallest type of saxophone, the soprillo saxophone, was invented in 2004.

Sadie Hawkins Day



This holiday originated from the 1930s Al Capp's "Lil Abner" cartoon series. The mayor of Dogpatch was desperate to marry off his less-than-attractive daughter, so he created the holiday. If a girl caught her man, he had to marry her.

Have a Bad Day Day



This holiday recognizes that everyone has a bad day every once in awhile. It was created and copyrighted by Wellcat.com to encourage us to wish people to have a bad day. The intent is to have sales people stop saying to their customers "have a good day" and replace it with "have a bad day."

Thanksgiving





Eat, drink, and be *thankful.*

Black Friday & Buy Nothing Day

It's contradictory sounding, right? Well, in the world of accountants, red signifies a loss, and black signifies a profit. For many retailers, the day after Thanksgiving is the beginning of the Christmas-holiday sales season which replenishes half to three quarters of annual sales. But, in 1992, Ted Dave from Vancouver Canada deemed this special day "Buy Nothing Day" by promoting it through a group called "Adbusters." It is celebrated in Canada, the United States and in some European countries by engaging in a 24-hour moratorium on holiday shopping as a protest against the commercialism of Christmas.



Cookin' with Vic

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Thanksgiving Pumpkin Pie

CRUST:
- 6 tbsp cold butter
- 1 ¼ cup flour
- ¼ tsp salt
- 4-6 tbsp ice cold water

FILLING:
- 2 ¾ cups pumpkin puree
- ¼ cup maple syrup
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 1/3 cup unsweetened plain almond milk
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 2 ½ tbsp cornstarch
- 1 ¾ tsp pumpkin pie spice
- ¼ tsp sea salt

To prepare the crust, add the flour and salt to a large mixing bowl and whisk to combine. Then slice the butter and use a fork to work it into the mixture. Add cold water a little at a time and use a wooden spoon to stir—only add as much water as needed for it to come together.

Once you have formed a loose dough, transfer it to a piece of plastic wrap and work gently with your hands to form a ½ inch thick disc. Then, wrap it firmly and refrigerate for 30 minutes.

Once the dough is chilled, preheat your oven to 350 degrees and begin preparing your pie filling. Add all pie ingredients to a blender and blend until smooth.

Roll out the crust by unwrapping the disc and placing it between two layers of wax paper and roll it into the shape of your pie pan—be gentle. Then, remove the top layer of wax paper, lay the pie dish face down on the top of the crust and quickly invert it into the dish. Use your hands to form the crust into the pan, working it up along the sides.

Pour the filling into the pie crust and bake for 58-65 minutes. The crust should be a light golden brown and the filling will still be jiggly with a few cracks on the top. Remove it from the oven and let cool.

Once it has cooled, loosely cover it and place in the refrigerator for 4-6 hours, or overnight. Slice and serve with whipped cream, and you've got the perfect Thanksgiving dessert!

The best part about this recipe is that is can easily be made vegan and gluten free by using gluten free flour and vegan butter. It may not be your grandma's famous sweet potato pie, but maybe you can start a new, healthy pumpkin pie tradition.

Happy eating, everyone!

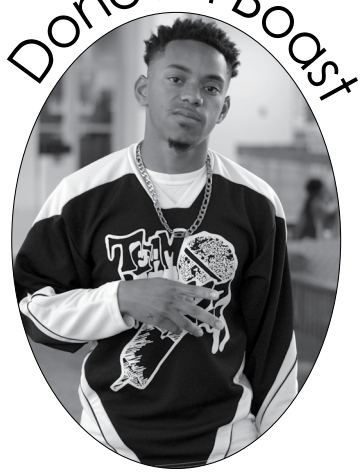
NS'U' Voice

What would you fight to keep unchanged on our campus?



Junior, Criminal Justice Major

"I would not change the diversity among our student life because the experience here is more diverse than at HBCU."



Sophomore, Business Administration Major

"I would not change the president because of his quick progression on campus."



Freshman, Radiology Major

"If I could keep something the same about campus it would be the gym."



Freshman, Musical Theatre Major

"One thing I wouldn't change is the Natatorium. I love the history and architecture of the facility. With it being abandoned, it gives an opportunity for adventure."

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NSU Memories: Word play won me the student treasurer election

Bill Thrash
Contributing Alumnus

In the spring semester of 1970, I made the decision to run for treasurer of the Student Government Association at NSU. It would be nice if I could say that public service was my calling, but, truth be told, I was really in need of the scholarship attached to the position.

Three people were signed up to run for treasurer: one male (who was a fraternity guy), one female (who was a sorority person), and myself (who was being called a "GDI" or "independent"). From the beginning I was told that there was no way to beat members of the Greek community in this election; that I'd place third while they would most likely be chosen after a runoff election. My slogans were "Put a business major in a business position" and "Thrash can do the job." Leading up to the big day everyone did their campaigning, gave their speeches and gave statements to "The Current Sauce."

Then it was election day.

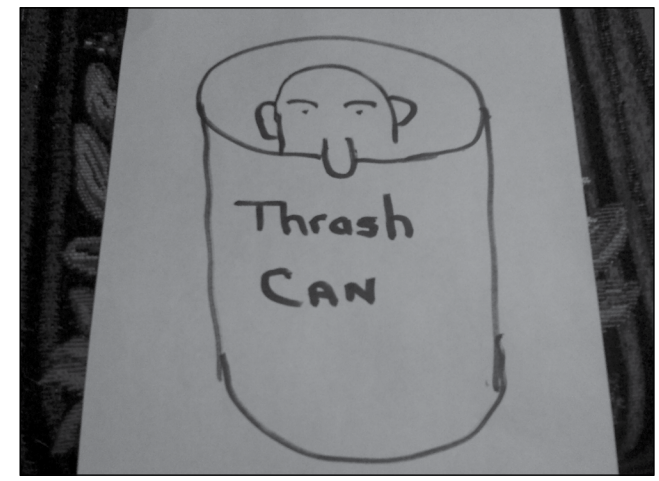
In a surprising turn of events the sorority girl came in first, and, while she did not have a majority of the votes, she did have a 2 to 1 edge over me. In third place was the fraternity guy. Next up was the runoff election between the sorority girl and me. People assured me that she'd get the fraternity vote and I would not have a chance to win. To win, I needed to do something to endear myself to the student voters.

It occurred to me that while growing up in school that kids and teachers would mistakenly call my name "Trash," not "Thrash." (There was no "Thrash Metal" music in those days.) It was then that I decided to transform as many on-campus trashcans into "Thrash Cans."

As you can see in the photo all it took was a sheet of typing paper, a magic marker and some clear tape to transform them. I came up with the little drawing of a guy peering out of a trashcan with "Thrash Can" written on the barrel he was inside. I drew those until my arm nearly fell off. Between classes and in the evenings I taped the message to, if I could, every trashcan on campus. It wasn't long before nearly every trashcan on campus became a "Thrash Can." If I didn't get every one of them it wasn't because I didn't try. Soon "Thrash Cans" were everywhere.

I do believe that's what won me the election. When the runoff votes were counted, my voters had tripled and the sorority girls' had dropped to half. Thus the election was won!

Then all I had to do the rest of the semester was take my signs off of all of the trashcans.



Thrash posted flyers like the one pictured above on campus trashcans to help him secure the treasurer position in SGA in 1970. *Photo submitted by Bill Thrash*

#bringbackangrybirds
Student angered by minion mania

Meg Denny
Staff Writer



I cannot clearly remember a day in my life without Minions. I know that only two or three years ago I could go a full week without seeing one of those blue and yellow tater tots, but since then the world has become so clouded with Minions that I cannot recall the good ole days anymore. They are just gone.

Those despicable creatures are everywhere now. If I go on Facebook, I first have to prepare myself for their annoying goggles popping onto my computer screen.

Walmart is probably the worst offender. Want to know why one cannot go shopping for groceries in Walmart without being attacked by bulging eyes and yellow clown-looking things? Marketing.

Consider this: I propose that Minions and Walmart have teamed up from the very dawn of Minion Mania.

My Basis? Color. Although the shading is different between Walmart and Minions, both don the classic blue and yellow.

I am not sure how Walmart did it, but somehow they predicted the popularity of these seemingly cute monsters.

I believe that as soon as the Minions came into existence, Walmart knew that Illumination Entertainment had done them a serious favor.

Now, they are infiltrating our homes, your schools and probably our churches. (I just assume that these creatures are so popular that kids go to church with Minion backpacks ready to interrupt the services with quotes from all of the Minion movies.) Walmart has to be really happy right now.

As consumers in this capitalistic society, I think we all need to be aware of the implications Minions carry with them.

We might be teaching our children to give in to the Walmart craze by giving them Minion paraphernalia.

We might be teaching them that speaking incoherently using only a few silly words like "potato" and "uh-huh" is the trendy way to communicate.

We might be teaching them that evil is fun! Have we forgotten that, in theory, Minions flock to evil and try to help the wrongdoers? Before purchasing another Minion for the loved ones in your life, please consider the consequences.

I have started a new movement to deflect from Minion Mania that will hopefully take off soon. As much as I hate Angry Birds, I find them far more attractive to our growth as human beings on this planet. Maybe they promote anger, but at least they do not promote actual evil and stupidity.

Therefore, I created the hashtag: #bringbackangrybirds. I will do anything to sweep these useless Minions under the rug, and Angry Birds seems to be the only option.

Please join me in my quest to end the subliminal messages Minions send us along with the annoyance of seeing these cylindrical fiends daily.

'Tis the season of Netflix and chill

An-gel Samuel
Contributing Writer

Apparently in University Place II, students have found cuddle buddy applications hanging from their doors with promises of being inconspicuous and effective.

It's that time of year guys: cuddle season. The weather gets cooler, and cuddling becomes a need. Some people are already prepared, and some are still waiting to be drafted. Be careful whom you choose.

Along with cuddle season comes "Netflix and chill." Since Netflix became an international pastime, most are familiar with this phrase and all that comes with it. But actually, "Netflix and chill" is not a new thing added to our list of phrases.

Before Netflix came into the picture, there were drive-in movies, the ones that showed in black and white while people typically sat cars with their dates, though they had to be strategically aware of the other cars parked beside them.

After drive-ins came Blockbuster, home of the tapes. Lovebirds rented a tape out of the store and took it home to enjoy, but they couldn't forget to bring it back before those late fees hit.

Now Netflix is available in the comfort of home, with unlimited movie nights for those willing to pay the $8 a month or find a way to bum off someone else's account, like the majority of college students.

Be careful out there guys. History has taught us – and personal experience may have played a part –what can result if "Netflix and chill" gets out of hand.

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Esdeina Gonzalez, dancing in goals

Ben Wellman
Sports Reporter

She has only led the Lady Demon soccer team in scoring since she has been here, and she doesn't look to slow up any time soon.

This player would be Esdeina Gonzalez, a sophomore forward from Humble, Texas. She's no stranger to scoring goals, as her seven goals last season and six goals this season have topped the Lady Demons' scoring charts the past two seasons.



Gonzalez and her two sisters were born to Mexican parents, so she can be considered Mexican as well as American.

When she's not racking up goals for the Lady Demons, she has two other main hobbies. She likes cars, as she wants to be a mechanic when she gets older, and she likes dancing, which she has been doing since her freshman year of high school.

"I didn't know I could move," Gonzalez said of her dancing. "I just did it, and it came out, and it just became a hobby for me. I always knew how to dance to Hispanic music, but I never knew I could dance to hip hop, R&B and pop music."

Of course, starting college in a new state a year ago meant a transition period for Gonzalez. While academics weren't as challenging to her, transitioning to college soccer didn't come as naturally.

"It was hard, since in college, there's more pressure," she said. "The coaches already have a scouting report of you. They know about you, and they move the game around to affect you. That was kind of difficult for me, but I managed to get through."

With a hard transition to soccer, Gonzalez knew that she had to work hard to get into the team. Her coaches and teammates have taken notice of her work ethic over time.

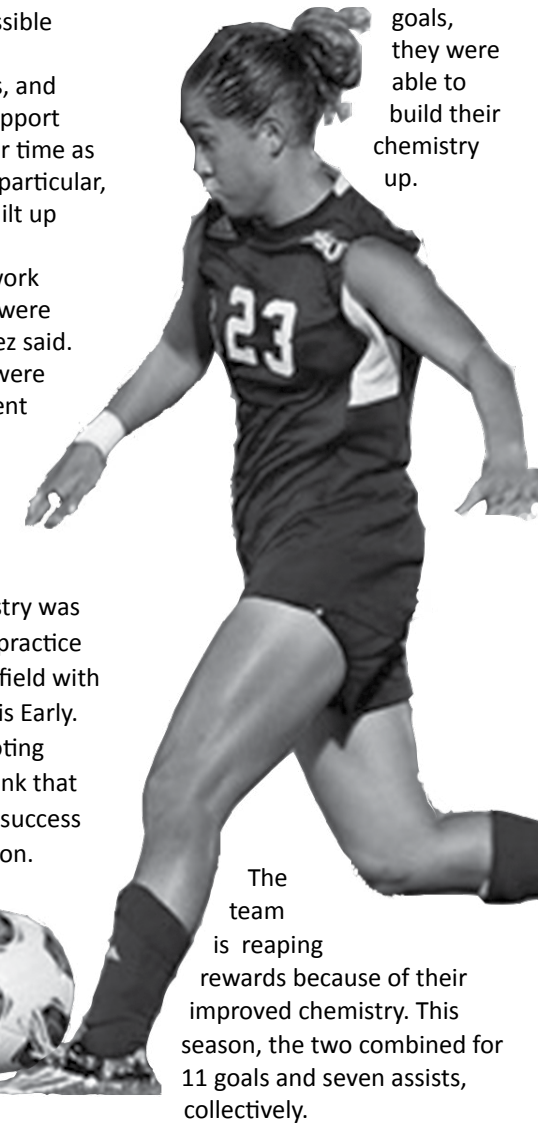
"Esdeina is one of the most hardworking players I have ever had the privilege to play with," senior attacker Cassandra Briscoe said. "She is willing to go above and beyond in practices and games."

"It has been great to see the development that 'Esi' has made over these two seasons," Lady Demon head coach George van Linder said. "However, it has come with hard work, she is always one of the first ones out to the fields, usually 30 minutes before everyone else. Her hard work will continue to pay off for the rest of her career, and it will inspire her teammates to achieve greatness."

Gonzalez knows that her success wouldn't be possible without help from her teammates and coaches, and she's thankful for the support they've shown her in her time as a Lady Demon so far. In particular, she and Briscoe have built up some good chemistry.

"Cass and I did extra work because we felt like we were getting behind," Gonzalez said. "We didn't feel like we were doing as good, so we went extra."

"We pushed each other in practice and it seemed to work for the games," Briscoe said. "One reason our chemistry was good is because before practice we would go out to the field with our assistant coach, Chris Early. We would work on shooting from all angles, and I think that was a major part of our success towards the end of season. We became comfortable with each other, and it was kind of a preview to all the goals Esdeina would score for us this season."



The chemistry wasn't always there between those two. Briscoe was a junior when Gonzalez joined the team, and with some hard work and similar goals, they were able to build their chemistry up.

The team is reaping rewards because of their improved chemistry. This season, the two combined for 11 goals and seven assists, collectively.

"She is a leader on the team, even at a young age," Briscoe said. "She represents the kind of attitude and work rate you should have on and off the field. There is no doubt in my mind that she has the ability to take the team to the next level."

Another interesting thing about Gonzalez is her jersey number. As a freshman, she wore number 20, but she switched it up for 23, her main number, for this season and probably the rest of her Lady Demon career.

"I've always been 23," Gonzalez said. "I've always wanted to be 23, and I couldn't be 23 last season because [former Lady Demon] Kim [Pimental] had it. Unfortunately, she left, but I decided to keep representing 23."

Having a different number than 23 last season was different for her, and it was a situation she wasn't completely familiar with.

"Even when I was signing little girls' posters and stuff, I would put 23," Gonzalez said. "One little girl last year came up to me and said, 'I noticed that you're 20, but you put 23.'"

That's Gonzalez. She's a team player, and she's a hard worker for her team. Hopefully her goals and hard work can encourage the team to dance to victory.

Defense dominates, Demons win 39-22

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

Horrible weather conditions proved no match for the Demons Saturday night, as they managed to beat the visiting Wildcats, 39-22.

It was their third win in four games, two at home, as the Demons (3-6, 3-4) are making a late season comeback after coming up short for the first few weeks of the season.

"It's nice watching our offense and seeing what we've grown into," head coach Jay Thomas said. "We have a run game, a misdirection game, a passing game that has a vertical threat deep, our tight ends are blocking well, catching it well and adding a threat, and we have an offensive line that creates lanes for our running backs and is protecting our quarterbacks."

The Demons racked up 466 total yards, 194 on the ground with 272 in the air. Senior quarterback Stephen Rivers was 21 of 28 for a season-best 272 yards and three touchdowns, including a 65-yarder to Ed Eagan in the third quarter for his 13th reception. That 13th reception tied Eagan's own single-game reception record, as he had 293 all-purpose yards to end the game; 212 of them were receiving along with one touchdown.

"The offense is on a good roll right now. The chemistry is clicking. Stephen threw the ball very well, and the receivers caught it well, especially in wet weather," said Thomas. "Passing the ball that much was part of the plan, even though the weather wasn't great, unfortunately. The receivers protected the ball and handled it well in the rain, and that's important because Abilene is very physical in the box."

The ground game was led by running back De'Mard Llorens, who had 69 yards with 16 carries and one touchdown. The other double-digit carrier was Daniel Taylor, who had 10 carries with 59 yards. Chris Jones was another scorer for the night as he broke away from the Wildcats defense for a 37-yard touchdown.

Senior kicker Chris Moore made a 52-yard field goal, matching his career best and the second-longest in school history, to break NSU's career-scoring record. His nine points Saturday pushed up his total to 230.

Senior linebacker Jacob Merriman led the Purple Swarm defense with 14 tackles and 1.5 sacks. Junior defensive end Jemarcus Marshall had 10 tackles and 1.5 sacks. The defense only had one turnover that night as linebacker Peyton Guidry caught the only interception.

Story continued online at currentsaucenews.com

Quidditch team competes at SFA



Members of the NSU Demon Quidditch team prepared to start the game. Each team has to have seven members on the field to begin. *Photo by Rachel Neathamer*



Top: Quidditch members tried to stop opposing team from scoring. Bottom: Tyler Jacobs jumped in the air as he tried to toss the quaffle threw the hoop. *Photos by Rachel Neathamer*



2015 Roster: Jacob Posey, Juan Thompson, Tyler J. Jacobs, D'andre Alexander The Great, Sam White, Dustin Cormier, Julie Breaux, Brooke Griffiths, Katie Rayburn, Candice Smith, Dallas Guillory, Julianna Carmouche, Teresa Kurkey

Hannah Richardson
Contributing Writer

The Northwestern State University Demon Quidditch Team packed up its broomsticks and headed over to Stephen F. Austin State University last Saturday to compete in a Quidditch tournament. The tournament brought together several other Quidditch teams from different universities and fans who share a common interest in the "Harry Potter" franchise.

Despite losing two games, 10-17 and 7-13, the Quidditch players aren't discouraged. Dustin Cormier, president of NSU Demon Quidditch, said that for him the quality of the trip didn't depend on whether they won or lost.

"It wasn't really about the score for me," Cormier said. "It was all about learning and getting the experience, as a team."

Rachel Neathamer said it was fascinating to see the game come to life at the tournament. She went with the Quidditch team to SFA to take pictures of the team.

"It was really interesting to watch," Neathamer said. "It was raining and freezing there, but still, it was interesting."

Brooke Griffiths, keeper for the Demon Quidditch team, said that the Harry Potter Club/ Quidditch team is always accepting new members. All fans of the series or sport are welcome to join. Dues are only $10 per semester.

D'andre Alexander, seeker on the Demon Quidditch team, said they're eager to rally some new members to join this quickly progressing sport.

"The team we played against had 20-25 players for their team, and we only had 8 teammates that participated," Alexander said. "They could substitute players when they got tired, and we couldn't."

The club also has plans for fundraising in the future. The Harry Potter Club plans on hosting a bake sale on Nov. 17 and 18 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in front of Vic's to raise money for equipment. The club is not only looking for Quidditch players but also new members, who will enjoy several "Harry Potter" themed activities. Meetings are held at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays in Room 320 of the Student Union.

How it works:

Quidditch originated in the popular series of novels and film adaptations, "Harry Potter," and has recently been brought into the real world as a physical sport. Our Quidditch team is a part of the Harry Potter Fan Club. The club was founded in 2013, but the Demon Quidditch team officially started at the beginning of this semester.

The sport is described as a mixture of rugby, dodgeball and soccer. The game works much like the fictional sport in the "Harry Potter" novels, minus the flying broomsticks. The "chasers" of the team try to get the game ball — a half-deflated volleyball called the "quaffle" — into one of the opponent's three hoops, which are guarded by the opposing team's goalie or "keeper."

Team players also try to avoid opposing "beaters" by throwing a slightly deflated dodgeball — called the "bludger" — at them. If a player gets hit by a bludger, they get a knock-out penalty. When a team manages to get the quaffle through a hoop, the team scores 10 points.

Each team tries to get as many points as possible, as the seeker tries to get the snitch — a tennis ball placed in a sock attached to the snitch runner. The snitch runner sprints around the field as each team's seeker tries to grab it. The seeker who manages to grab the snitch first gains their team 30 points and ends the game.

Advisor: Allison Rittmayer
Club President: Dustin Cormier
Email: dcormier564482@nsula.edu

From class project to movement

Continued from front

"Our goal is to give students knowledge so that any sexual harassment can be eliminated," LeBlanc said.

On Nov. 18, Demons Support Demons will be hosting a breakfast coalition where the supervisors and advisors will be signing a Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU is a set of guidelines or rules that the organization and its sponsors promise to follow.

"Aside from the MOU signing, the students will present a slideshow to Dr. Henderson about the things the organization has accomplished," supervisor and Dean of Students Frances Conine said.

DSD has partnered with numerous other businesses and student groups to raise awareness about sexual assault on campus. They have received support from Campus Living Villages, the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office and the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center. They have also presented their ideas to multiple companies in order to gain support.

On Nov. 5, they held a tabling event in front of Vic's with educational material about consent, bystander intervention and resources available to students who have been assaulted. They also teamed up with the graphics department, who made graphics with relevant statistics, preventative measures and upcoming events.

Once the group officially becomes a registered student organization, it will also have to follow guidelines given by a board of regents, federal law and state laws. State laws require awareness programs to be conducted annually, which is done each year with the freshmen during orientation, LeBlanc said. Freshmen Greek participants were required to attend a seminar, and a professional development Title IX forum was also held for faculty and staff members.

Ideas that start in a classroom can accidentally turn into something much bigger. In 1996, a young, determined entrepreneur presented a business plan to his professor about a restaurant that would only serve chicken fingers.

What started as a dream in a classroom transpired into a restaurant known throughout the south: Raising Canes. Just like Raising Canes, Demons Support Demons grew way beyond the classroom and will continue to affect future Demons for years to come.



President Henderson took a selfie with students working the Demons Support Demons table outside of Vic's. *Photo submitted by President Henderson*

Helping and Reporting at NSU

For emergencies:

- University Police: 357-5431
- Natchitoches Police Department: 911 for emergencies, 352-8101
- Sexual Assault Hotline: 1-800-656-4673

During working hours call:

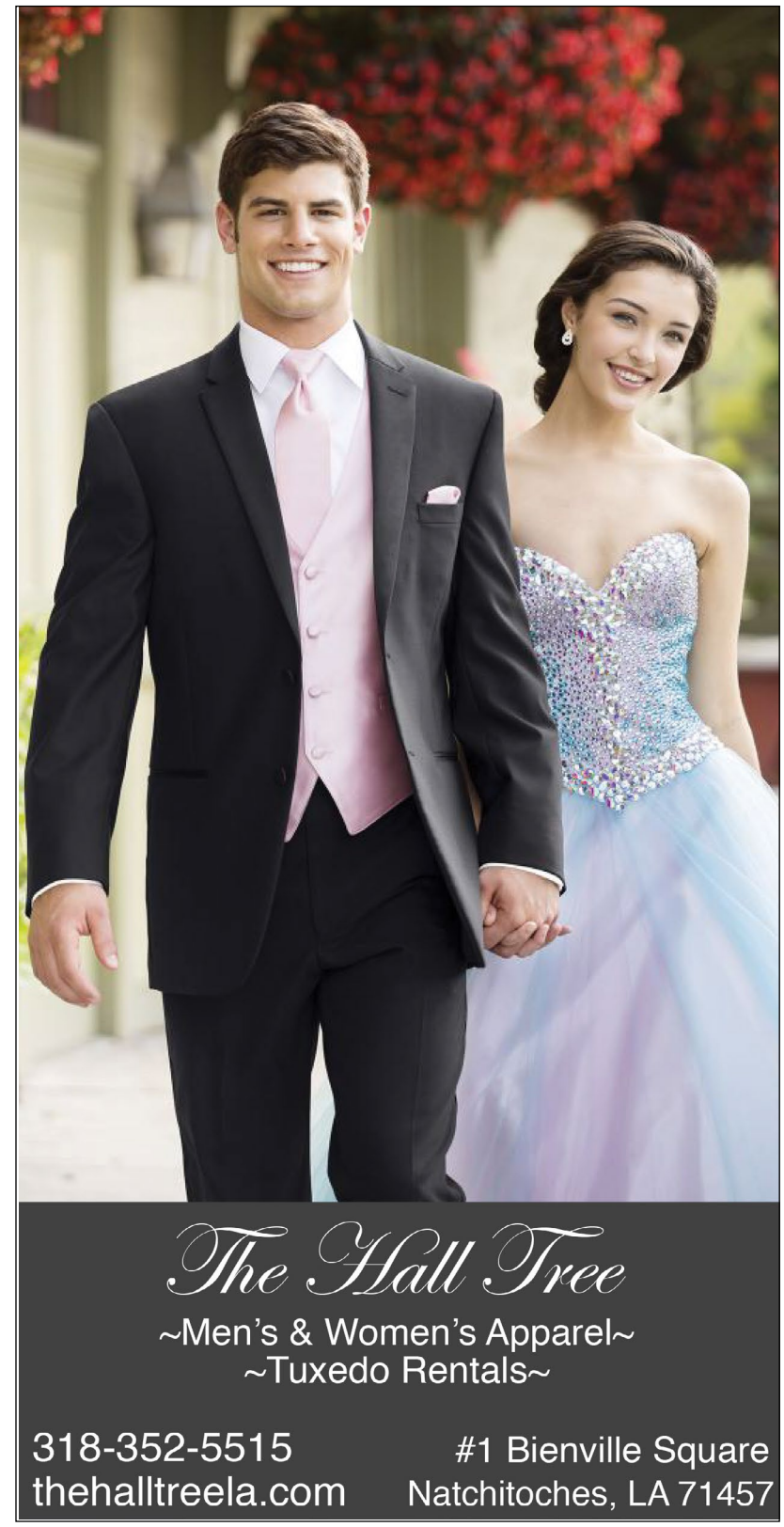
- NSU Counseling Services: 357-5621
- Dean of Students: 357-5286

Other resources:

- Natchitoches Regional Medical Center and SANE Nurse: 501 Kyser Avenue, 214-4200
- Natchitoches Mental Health Clinic: 357-3122
- Natchitoches Parish Sheriff: 352-6432, or 911
- Natchitoches Parish District Attorney: 357-2214

For more information visit www.nsula.edu/notalone







McDonald's ice cream machine always 'down'? Find out why

Page 6

Student gives opinion on what's really going on with new Starbucks cup

Page 8



50th showdown for Battle of Chief Caddo set for Saturday

Page 10



THE CURRENT SAUCE



Old River Clothier is selling shirts with two different designs and encouraging people against the Confederate Flag Ban to wear them throughout December. In exchange for purchasing a shirt, customers are entered into a raffle for the chance to win a shotgun. *Photo submitted by Dakota Scoggins*

Confederate Flag ban sparks conflict for Christmas Festival

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

For the first time in 26 years, the Sons of the Confederate Veterans (SCV) do not plan to march in the Natchitoches Christmas Festival Parade. This decision stems from a letter Mayor Lee Posey sent the Christmas Festival Committee on Nov. 2 stating that the Confederate Battle Flag will not be allowed in the parade this year.

In his letter, Mayor Posey explains that this symbol of the Old South upsets many members of the public, and that the city will not affiliate itself with a flag often characterized as "racially inflammatory" any longer.

"For many, the flag represents a symbol of patriotism, faith and family," the mayor wrote. However, Posey recognized that many associate the flag with "expressions of hate, racism and intolerance directed toward people or groups that is demeaning to those people or groups."

Although the city's Christmas Season Chairman responded to the letter with compliance, Mayor Posey's decision sparked a large amount of backlash in the business community. Dakota Scoggins, owner of Old River Clothier on Front St., believes that the Confederate Flag ban at the parade will hurt business throughout the Christmas Festival period.

"He's stepping on my feet as a business owner," Scoggins said. As a Historic District Business Association (HDBA) member, Scoggins claims that a voting process is supposed to be in place for all decisions about the Christmas Festival. However, according to the Old River Clothier owner, no voting process occurred; Scoggins said he received no phone call either, a supposed step in the voting process.

To clear up misconceptions about this ban, Mayor Posey held a press conference at the Arts Center on Nov. 16. He clarified that the ban only prohibits the Confederate Battle Flag — one of many confederate flags — from being displayed in the actual parade procession.

Additionally, the mayor explained that he did not prohibit SCV from marching in the parade. Posey claimed that he tried to offer the SCV an alternative flag to fly during their march, the original Confederate Flag, but they rejected his attempt at compromise.

Continued on Page 2

Paris attacks from alum on the scene

30 minutes makes all the difference when it comes to life or death

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

Alumna Megan Guidry Bowden lounged in a Parisian bar Friday night, having drinks with current NSU exchange student Tabitha Adams, when the mood of the room suddenly took a dramatic turn. News spread of a bombing and a shooting in the center of Paris, and her dream trip turned quickly into every tourist's nightmare.

"We missed it by an hour," Bowden said, still in shock, about the first attack. Just an hour before, she was visiting museums and sightseeing in the city center where the first two of the six total attacks took place.

The employees invited people to stay the night and urged them to use caution going home. The streets emptied out, and the group was faced with the difficult decision of how to get to their room, which was an hour away.

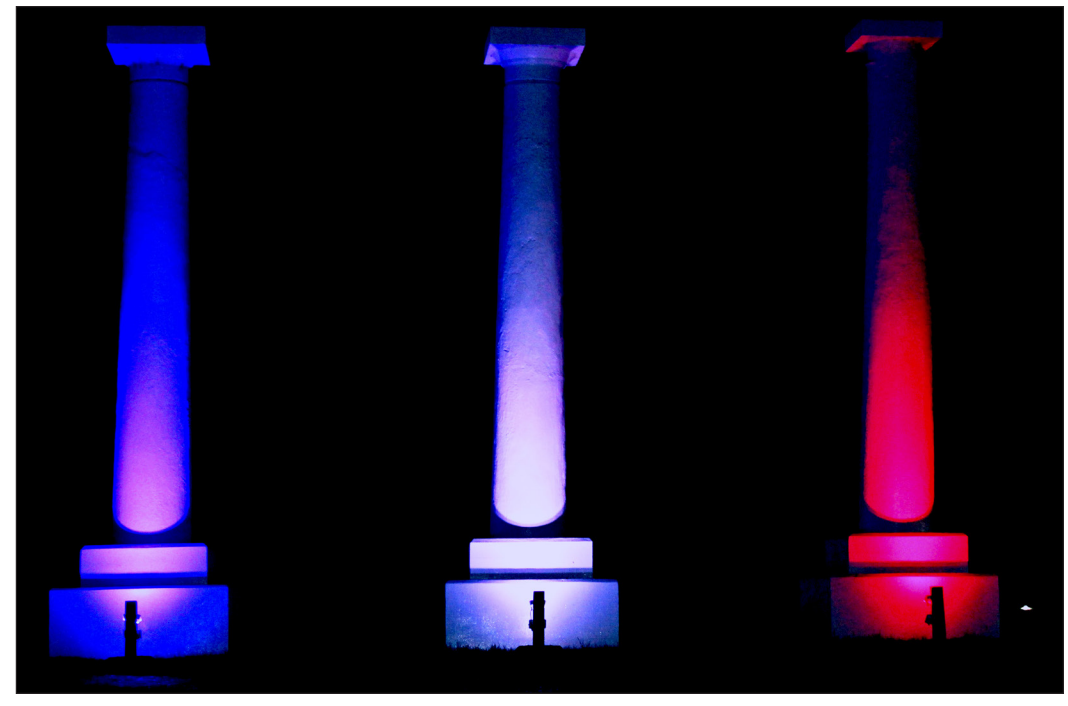
The taxi was above ground and prey to street blockades, and the metro was crowded and sparsely policed. After much debate, they chose the metro and headed out on the near-empty street that was teeming with people just minutes before.

Then came the second shock of the night. After a somber metro ride home, they heard that a suicide bomber had attacked near a metro station where they were 30 minutes before.

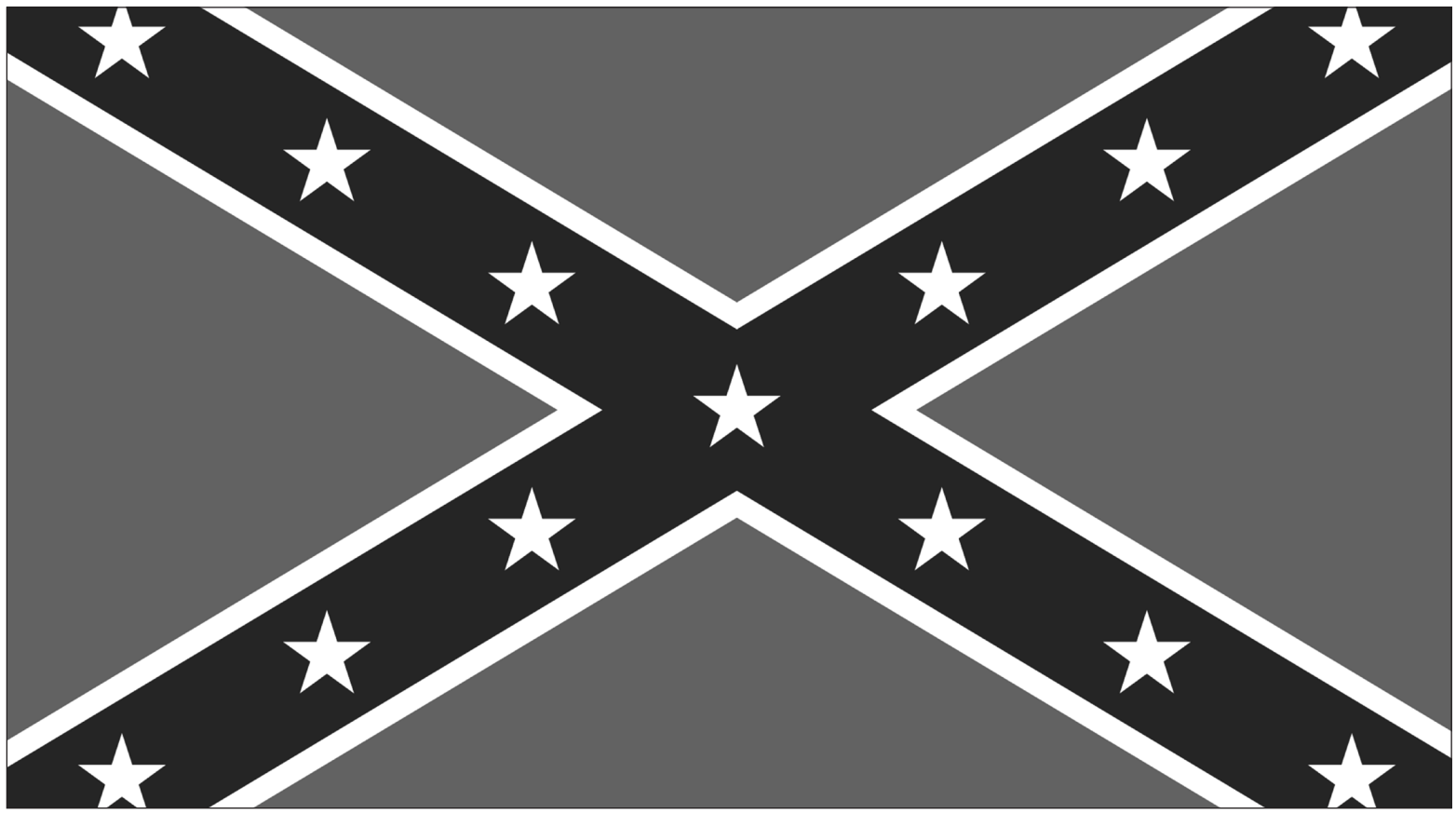
Bowden said it felt "surreal" and "freaky, because we missed it so closely." She said her primary emotion at the time was an urgency to get everyone back safely, though her European friends were much more panicked since the attack was so close to home.

"There was a lot of fear for our safety, but getting back to the flat was the main focus," Bowden said. "Whenever we got home it was time to say 'okay, now what really just happened' and cool down."

Continued on Back



NSU's columns joined the dozens of monuments around the world that lit up in blue, white and red after the Eiffel Tower's lights turned off after the attacks. The terrorist attack resulted in the death of at least 129 people. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*



Natchitoches followed examples set by several southern states by banning the Confederate Flag from official buildings and town events. Some locals think the mayor did not act in the interest of the city. *Photo from Creative Commons*

Confederate flag ban creates conflict in Natchitoches

Continued from front

SCV has not only refused to march in the parade, but also to perform their annual Civil War battle reenactments. The organization also claims that they plan to contact the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) to find out their legal options, involving First Amendment rights.

Mayor Posey expressed that although he is not disappointed in the SCV's decisions, he realizes that the city has lost "a great educational tool" for Natchitoches schools and citizens.

Before banning the flag, Posey met with multiple groups about the issue starting in the summer when the Natchitoches Parish Voters and Civics League approached him with a request that something be done about the Confederate Flag in the parade.

At the press conference, the mayor explained his reasons for the final decision.

"As mayor, I am accountable to all citizens who live in our city … for many the Confederate Flag is a symbol of hate, bigotry, violence and division," he said.

Following the press conference, Commander of the Louisiana Division of the SCV Thomas E. Taylor released a response to the mayor. In it, he refuted the mayor's statement.

"At best, the mayor's statement is deceptive and at worst, it is a lie," Taylor said. He claimed that people who "use tragedy for their own purposes" manipulated Posey into his decision.

According to Taylor, the mayor promised him extra security at the parade this year and the ability to fly the Confederate Battle Flag after a meeting in early September. However, Taylor claimed that Posey changed his position on the matter by November and said the SCV could only fly Confederate Flags without the Saint Andrew's Cross.

Taylor noted that this request to fly alternate flags could not be fulfilled in a historically correct manner. Therefore, he refused the mayor's offer. Taylor wrote that Posey "agreed that none of them [the concerned citizens] knew what they were talking about but he was making this decision anyway."

Taylor, like Scoggins, declared that Posey did not include the HDBA in the decision-making process.

Mayor Posey stated that backlash at the parade is expected and security will have a stronger presence this year during the festival.

"Our Christmas Festival Parade and our holiday season is not about a flag," the mayor professed at the press conference. "This occasion should be a time when we leave our differences on the doorstep and gather to observe and embrace 'good will toward men.'"

Police blotter

- 11/09/15, Criminal mischief, Parking lot 30
- 11/11/15, Burglary, Warehouse, Closed arrest made
- 11/11/15, Property damage, Shreveport campus
- 11/12/15, Theft, Student Union, open
- 11/12/15, Theft, Kyser Hall
- 11/16/15, Suspicious person, South Hall, Person was a student
- 11/16/15, Drug law violation, University Place 1, open
- 11/16/15, Suspicious person, Kyser Hall, person was a student

Student Government Association Weekly Meeting Minutes

- Quotes have been attained for possible changes to be made for the Iberville bathrooms. The decisions for renovations are being made.
- A bill on parking will be voted on next SGA meeting. This bill requests a color-coded parking system that will designate where people can and cannot park in a clear way.
- On Jan. 21, a debate will take place in Magale Recital Hall concerning the issue of the power of police and their use of force. SGA approved speakers Theodore Shaw and Tamar Brickhead as experts on police power. Together the speakers will cost roughly $20,000.
- Pricing for speakers to display KNWD's music across campus is obtained. Decisions for placement and purchasing are being made currently.
- On Dec .9, SGA will host the midnight breakfast in Iberville sponsored by Sodexo. The event will be 9 p.m. to 12 a.m.



Multiple organizations around campus show that they support students at the University of Missouri. *Submitted Photo*

"I stand with Mizzou because as a black student at a PWI (predominately white institution) I am entitled to an education just like any other race. We have to fight for what is right for us and stand together. No, violence isn't the way, but our lives being threatened isn't the way either."

-Courtney Hawkins, Freshman

"I stand with Mizzou because institutionalized hatred is not acceptable. Universities are places of academic growing, and it should be the goal of the institustion to make the learning environment safe and affirming for all people."

-Aaron Roger, Junior

"I stand for Mizzou because my brothers and sisters are in grave danger, simply because they have been adorned with more melanin."

-Genecia Spencer, Senior

College students raise their voices in protest

Students across the country attempt to change views using power in numbers

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

From the East Coast to the West Coast of the United States, college student voices are growing louder, vocalizing their desires for equality along with the abolishment of racial discrimination.

The most-recent match to light was at Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y. Thousands of faculty, students and staff gathered on campus on Wednesday, Nov. 11, walked out of their classes and called for the resignation of their university president, Tom Rochon, according the Democracy Now website.

The protesters criticized Rochon for his responses to racist incidents. One situation included an African-American graduate who was repeatedly called a "savage" by two white male fellow alumni.

To this day, Rochon refuses to resign, but promises that his students and faculty will be more aware on sensitive, racial issues.

Another famous school participating within the protests is the 10th-ranked best school in the world and third nationally-ranked best school: Yale University.

TIME magazine reports of hundreds of Yale students marching in protest of the administration's racial insensitivity over a costume-related incident similar to that faced by Northwestern State University recently.

The issue began when a group of administrators sent a guidance letter to students calling them to be "safe and thoughtful" on Halloween. It also urged them to avoid insensitive costumes, including those that feature blackface, turbans and mock Native American headdresses.

Controversy began when lecturer Erika Christakis sent an email to the students she oversees in her capacity as associate master at one of Yale's residential colleges objecting to the call for sensitivity: "Is there no room anymore for a child or young person to be a little bit obnoxious…a little bit inappropriate or provocative or, yes, offensive?" she wrote.

This incident flamed a blaze over previous snuffed embers of past racial situations. Frustrated students collaborated and wrote an open-ended letter to Christakis:

"We are not asking to be coddled… [We] simply ask that our existences not be invalidated on campus. This is us asking for basic respect of our cultures and our livelihoods."

At the University of Missouri, a discrimination protest called Concerned Student 1950 is dedicated to "eradicating forces that keep black students systematically oppressed." According to the CNN website, the protest evolved from a joke regarding the anniversary of the Michael Brown shooting into a school-wide protest demanding a call to action from their President Tim Wolfe to reinforce a new set of rules and regulations set against racial discrimination.

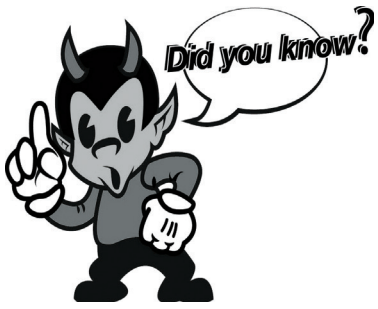
Now, the protest involves more than just rallies against discrimination. It includes hunger strikes, the university's football team refusing to play anymore games and the demand for Wolfe's resignation. The protest continues to develop as students grow frustrated.

Students and faculty members got involved. The first notable protest occurred during the school's annual homecoming game. When their president left, they marched around his car demanding answers as to why a speaker on diversity and discrimination couldn't come speak at their school. When Wolfe refused to answer, the students march so close to his car, that they prevented his departure and had to be removed from the area by bodyguards.

In a separate confrontation, Wolfe addressed students directly through a Twitter post, saying "systematic oppression is because you don't believe that you have equal opportunity for success..." This meant racial discrimination and oppression was up to the interpretation of individuals and held no bearing on their lives.

Out of all the colleges, only one in California celebrates a victory. According to The L. A. Times, on Nov. 11 student leaders at Claremont McKenna College rejoiced when a high-ranking, but "insensitive," junior class representative member resigned after posting a discriminatory Halloween video regarding Mexicans.

The protest included several rallies and two students' hunger strikes. They fought to reform their school, which has been traditionally more politically conservative than many other colleges around the nation.



Graphic by Hannah Fulton

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

An aspiring Northwestern State University tradition celebrates its second anniversary this year — hopefully outside.

Known as "CaddoFest," it will occur Friday, Nov. 20, from 3-11 p.m at the tailgate field.

It's free to everyone and will include a DJ and various food vendors.

The university's radio station KNWD 91.7 FM started this event last fall to commemorate NSU's last homecoming game against Stephen F. Austin in the "Battle for Chief Caddo."

This year, the Station Manager Katelon Ramos and Advisor Daniel Thiels want to make it an all-evening outdoors event instead of last year's indoor celebration in Prather Coliseum.

But, they say they are "at the mercy of the weather."

Thiels said the hope is to hold the event every year as a rivalry tradition.

In the future, they want to get the Chiefs involved by alternating the event to see who can put on a bigger, better celebration.

It will also be the first time KNWD partnered with athletics on the event like this.

Other campus organizations interested in participating are welcomed and encouraged to tailgate.



Graphic provided by KNWD

Say yes to Caddofest

Ian Cassidy
Contributing Writer

NSU Demon Athletics are partnering for a unique musical experience that can only be found on Northwestern's campus. The second-ever CaddoFest will be located at the tailgating field between Turpin Stadium and Prather Coliseum on Friday, Nov. 20. CaddoFest begins at 3 p.m. and ends at midnight. There will be live music, food and various activities, like bubble soccer sponsored by the Student Activities Board. CaddoFest is an event held every other year, in accordance with Northwestern's annual contest against Stephen F. Austin University.

This year's festival will feature local bands from the Central Louisiana region. Students may recognize bands like Passing a Starfighter and The Wall Chargers (formerly Engine), playing this Friday, as they played DemonFest 2015. Other bands playing at CaddoFest will be Hwy Lions and Shayliff of Shreveport, BRDFRD of New Orleans and Kopacetic and Dirt McGirt of Natchitoches.

Along with music, food and activities, there will be onstage giveaways sponsored by Raising Cane's for festivalgoers to participate in.
For more information regarding CaddoFest, please visit www.knwdradio.org or www.facebook.com/knwdnsu.



SAB lights up the night with lasers

Jade Williams
Contributing Writer

The event was organized with teams of four or more people. After collecting team members, each team entered the dimly lit arena of flickering laser lights.

They waited for their team names to be called and went into the playing field to face their opponents, equipped with headbands and laser guns. Competitors ducked behind barriers, dodged opponents and shot at their rivals, thus eliminating them from the game.

While awaiting their "utter demise," students could also entertain themselves with an inflatable obstacle course. Students often slipped and fell from lack of shoes but erupted in laughter soon after. Some teams were better prepared than others by wearing clothes that matched the darkness surrounding them.

The option to customize team names led to lots of creativity from team members. Some group names were "Team Deez Nuts," "Team Fruit Roll Up" and "Team Kids Next Door."

After either facing their defeat or victory, the team would cheer or mope.

They would rant or complain whilst taking selfies and disbursing into the night.

It was a time for students to let loose and possibly tap into their inner child.

Each student appeared to be pleased at the comedic occurrences of themselves and others and to enjoy the event as a whole.

Check out top 10 albums and movies of the week on iTunes. See the Lists on currentsaucenews.com



Audiences like "As You Like It"





Graphic by Jacob Contreras

Karla Ewing
Contributing Writer

The Northwestern State University Theatre and Dance program performed Shakespeare's "As You Like It" Nov. 5 – 7 and 12 – 14 at 6 p.m. at the original campus Columns. The outdoor set incorporated the Columns and a '70s theme. The cast incorporated the '70s theme with colorful costumes, mellow music, funky dance moves and drug references.

In cases of rain, performances were moved to the A.A. Fredericks Auditorium. Also, during the notorious Natchitoches passing trains, the play paused. These train breaks involved the cast dancing to '70s music and one cast member holding a sign that read "Train Break."

The set included a set of microphones near the stage that amplified the casts' lines through speakers set behind the audience. They also positioned lights to illuminate the stage in addition to the lights already in place at the Columns.

The outdoor venue complemented the original themes of the play. Dramaturge Grace Vogel's notes in the program read, "The time spent outside allows a person to see the world differently, learn about themselves and the world around them."

The play is set in the Forest of Arden, the relaxed countryside that contrasts "to the corruption and formalities of the uncompromising court life." The play follows the story of a royal family that has been overthrown and is hiding in the forest.

Duke Senior, played by Hector Peña Jr., has been usurped of his thrown by his younger sister, Duchess Frederick, played by NeAmbri Owens. Duke Senior takes refuge in the forest with loyal followers but leaves his daughter Rosalind, played by Shannon Harger, behind at court.

The Duchess sponsors a wrestling match. Orlando, played by Austin Aschbrenner, enters the match against champion wrestler Charles, played by L.G. Williams II. Orlando is divided from his brother Oliver, played by Jay Canova, by enmity. Oliver despises his brother and supports Charles in the match.

Though unexpected, and to add to the brothers' tension, Orlando wins the match. Orlando flees from his brother into the woods.

His win catches the attention of Rosalind, but she is banished by Duchess Frederick to Arden with her father. Frederick's daughter Celia, played by Hally Lambert, remains loyal to Rosalind and Duke Senior. Celia declares that she will accompany her best friend Rosalind in exile.

Rosalind disguises herself as a boy and goes by the name Ganymede. Celia adopts the role of being the sister and goes by the name Aliena.

Rosalind purchases a pasture and sets out to live the life of a shepherd. She finds carvings of her name in trees and love poems in the forest from Orlando. Rosalind decides to investigate Orlando's feelings under her disguise.

As Ganymede, Rosalind encourages Orlando to discuss his feelings with him as a comrade. In this manner, she is able to learn more about his true feelings for Rosalind.

During their adventures, Rosalind's disguise Ganymede meets a pastoral pair: a shepherd Silvius, played by Braxton Hogan, and the shepherdess Phebe, played by Chelsey Goldsmith. In her efforts to bring them together, Phebe rejects Silvius's simple love for the educated spoken word of Ganymede.

Oliver enters the forest in reconciliation after saving his brother Orlando from a lion. Upon meeting Cecila, though, he falls in love and is to be married by Duke Senior.

Rosalind proposes a clever solution to all of the lovers' quarrels the day before the wedding. As Ganymede, she makes Phebe promise to marry Silvius if she chooses not to want Ganymede the next day at the ceremonies. She also assures Orlando that Rosalind will marry him the next day.

"When all have gathered for the wedding, Rosalind reveals herself as the erstwhile Ganymede. She and Orlando are happily reunited, and Phebe agrees to marry Silvius."

During the wedding ceremonies, the right-hand man of the Duchess Dennis, played by Connor Loar, interrupts. He brings the news that the Duchess has "opted for a religious life." Duke Senior is restored to his rightful throne and they all live happily ever after…

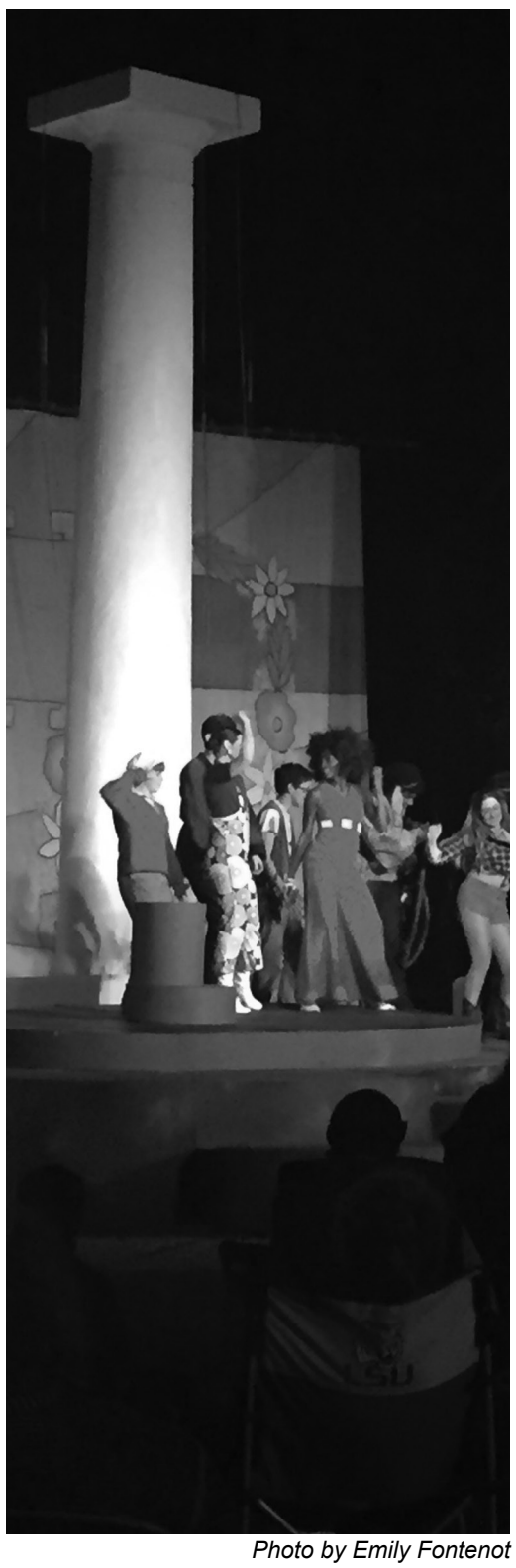
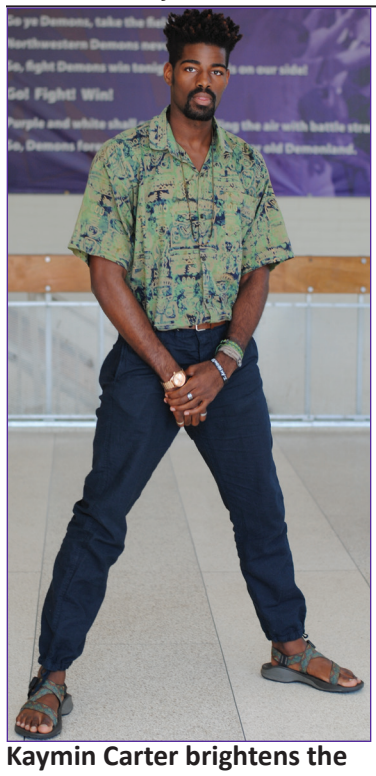


Photo by Emily Fontenot





Kaymin Carter brightens the union with his fresh fashion.
Photo by Tyra Morrison

Demon Style

Outfit of the Issue featuring Kaymin Carter

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

Kaymin Carter, a biology pre-med major, was "going with the flow" in the union, wearing an outfit that adapts to the weird weather while also delightfully clinging onto the feel of summer.

What's your inspiration for this outfit?
"I just hate the the whole 'when you're in college you have to look like a bum,' so I aspire to dress up every day."

Any on-campus pet peeves that aggravate you fashionably?
"Aggravates me? Basketball shorts to class! I hate basketball shorts. They are unnaturally long and ugly, and if you're not playing basketball, why are you wearing them?"

Do you have any fashion advice?
"Just find your style and make sure it matches! Express yourself through your clothes. That's all I gotta say."

How does this outfit affect your vibe for the day?
"It's a really nice vibe. It's flowy — flowy pants, flowy shirt. I'm just going with the flow today! I'm letting life take me where I need to go."

Natchitoches community faces political correctness controversy

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

In response to confusion and anger regarding the Confederate Battle Flag ban at the Christmas Festival Parade, Mayor Lee Posey held a press conference Monday evening to provide explanation.

"I truly believe that our Christmas Festival should seek to bind us, not divide us," Posey said.

Although the ban remains in place due to the racist implications of the flag, the mayor affirmed that "the sincerity of those to whom this flag represents history, culture and heritage was never questioned."

Despite the mayor's efforts to diffuse the situation, residents of Natchitoches are beginning to divide on the issue at hand.

Many members of the public took to social media to express their concerns. Rumors of a boycott on the Christmas Festival began to arise.

Old River Clothier, a clothing store on Front Street, began selling T-shirts from their Facebook page that read "Never Surrender…2015 Christmas Collection" and has a Confederate Battle Flag graphic printed on. The description reads, "Here it is! Our first design and the official shirt of the resistance!"

Dakota Scoggins, Old River Clothier owner and descendant of a Confederate veteran, believes the ban of the flag is an infringement upon citizens' rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

> "We are not racist; the flag has nothing to do with what it's being twisted into now," Scoggins declared.

Heritage, according to Scoggins, is the main idea of the flag.

He went on to say that the Civil War did not revolve around slavery at all; it revolved around trade and economics.

However professor of history at Northwestern State University, Dr. Gregory Granger, disagrees.

> "When it comes to the Civil War, there's no question; it was about slavery. Those who emphasize the concept of states' rights neglect to point out that the primary right of the states in question was legalized slavery," Granger said.

Mass communications major Dylan Danos believes that those opposing the flag do not understand the true history of the Civil War.

Danos describes the flag ban as "a slap in the face to those still holding heritage values." He believes that the movement of 'political correctness' (PC) is the end of society. "If the South would have won, we would have made it," Danos stated.

In contrast, English major Toria Smith supports the ban, calling it "a good start." Smith does not appreciate the resistance to the PC movement.

"Why are people so against making others comfortable? Why would you undermine someone else's truth?" she asked.

Soon after Mayor Posey's press conference, Sons of the Confederate Veterans Commander Thomas E. Taylor released a response condemning the mayor's actions.

"The mayor just arbitrarily made this decision on his own. Political correctness ruled the day," Taylor wrote.

Dr. Granger, from NSU's Department of Criminal Justice, History and Social Sciences, called the term 'political correctness' a shortcut for those who do not have much else to say.

"What people call political correctness is often just the act of trying to be nice and trying not to be offensive," Granger stated.

While Natchitoches remains divided on this issue, the Christmas Festival Parade is still planned for Dec. 5. Mayor Posey is aware that the public displays of the Confederate flag will rise this year, considering the T-shirt campaign and resistance in general, but stands firm on his decision regarding the parade.

Meanwhile, Scoggins does not want a boycott of the festival, but instead hopes many will show up wearing the Battle Flag.

"I want to show everyone that we are a peaceful group," he said.

Mayor Posey hopes that the Christmas Festival will be an opportunity to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ and to take advantage of this season of healing.

> "This country needs healing, our world situation, our state, our country, this community — there's a lot of healing that needs to go on," Posey stated.



McDonald's ice cream machine broken or employees 'just don't feel like it'?

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

Many Northwestern students' sugar cravings have led them to the McDonald's on Keyser only to be told by an employee that the ice cream machine is "down."

What does this "down" mean? Are they cleaning the machine? Did the machine get abducted by aliens? Has the ice cream machine decided that it now wants to pursue a career in hot chocolate?

The frequency of the machine being "down" has caused some of us Northwestern students to wonder if McDonald's employees just "don't feel like it." And overwhelmed college students "totally get that," but in the words of junior Logan Terrell,

"I have the right to soft serve whenever I feel #savethesoftserve."

One night at 9:30 p.m. Junior Annie Dauzat and a friend ordered soft serve ice cream and the employee told them the machine was in "heat mode" and wouldn't be working until 4 or 5 a.m.

"What is this 'heat mode?'" Dauzat said. "The period between 9 p.m. and 4 a.m. is the time everyone wants ice cream. Who wants ice cream for breakfast?"

"Heat mode" could mean two possible things: either it is a lame excuse from an apathetic employee or the machine is faulty and needs to be replaced.

Even if "heat mode" means that the ice cream machine is being cleaned, it shouldn't take all night.

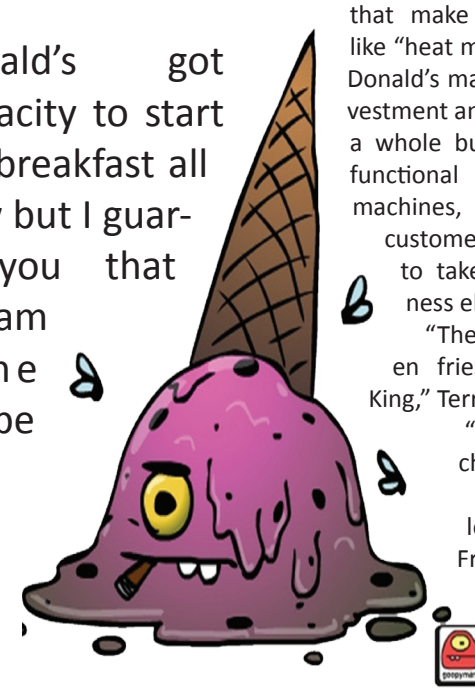
According to Jennifer Maxie, a manager at the McDonald's on Keyser, the cleaning process takes between one and a half to two hours.

The machine doesn't seem to be broken either. Maxie explained that since the ice cream machine runs for 24 hours, it sometimes needs to be reset.

"I don't know when, but at a certain time of the night [the ice cream machine] cuts off," Maxie said. "But all we have to do is turn it back on to reset it and the machine is ready."

The Keyser location isn't the only McDonald's location disappointing soft serve junkies. Last month Buzzfeed released an article about McDonald's called "Fix Your Damn Ice Cream Machine" that featured tweets from disgruntled youths without ice cream. One tweet said:

"McDonald's got the audacity to start serving breakfast all day now but I guarantee you that ice cream machine STILL be broke."



Burger King doesn't seem to have this problem with its ice cream machine. The Keyser Burger King manager Mary Bertrand confirmed that they don't experience "heat mode" with their ice cream machine and they strategically clean it every night 10 minutes before closing.

"We have our product available to all customers whether it be 6 a.m. or 11 at night," Bertrand said. "If we do have an issue [with the ice cream machine], we bring it to maintenance."

Whether it be lazy employees that make up phrases like "heat mode" or McDonald's made a bad investment and purchased a whole bunch of dysfunctional ice cream machines, disgruntled customers may start to take their business elsewhere.

"They have chicken fries at Burger King," Terrell said. "They have chicken that made love with a French fry and popped out little baby chicken fries."

McDonald's new all-day breakfast and the upcoming addition of mozarella sticks to the menu seem like improvements. But could these changes be desperate attempts to keep up with its fast food competitors?

Without soft serve, how can McDonald's stay on top?



Student longs for soft serve ice cream after having to settle for a medium fry and a diet coke. *Photo by Ashley Wolf*

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Cooking with Vic

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

Chicken Alfredo Fettuccini
Prep Time: 30-40 min.
Servings: 4-6

Ingredients:
4 medium-sized chicken breasts
1-2 jars of classic Alfredo sauce
1 box of fettuccine noodles
1 package of shredded parmesan cheese.
Butter or oil
For seasoning:
Garlic powder, pepper, salt,

Grill the chicken breast in a skillet using butter or oil. Before browning, add garlic powder, salt, pepper and a dash of Tony's to taste. Cut the chicken into bite-sized pieces.

While the chicken is cooking, boil the water for noodles. After water boils, add noodles to the pot.

Cook noodles for 8-10 minutes.

Make sure there is a good amount of butter or oil left in the pan. We want the butter to mix in with the alfredo sauce. No one likes dry alfredo. Add first jar of alfredo sauce to chicken in skillet, simmer the sauce on low.

If sauce is too thick, add ¼ cup of water. If water makes alfredo too soupy, add half of second jar of alfredo sauce to skillet.

When noodles are finished cooking, drain water from noodles and add combination of sauce and chicken in the pot with the noodles.

Mix together. Add Parmesan cheese to mixture (I suggest the whole bag).

Stir cheese into alfredo fettuccine and let sit for 5 minutes.

Serve.

My roommates and I have "roommate day" every Sunday. The goal is to catch up on homework assignments, eat and watch movies. We each take turns cooking. For my Sunday, I made Chicken Alfredo Fettuccini. To accompany the entree' I baked garlic bread and heated corn. I made a side salad with a mixture of romaine lettuce, leftover parmesan cheese and balsamic vinaigrette salad dressing.

Politically correct holiday cup

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

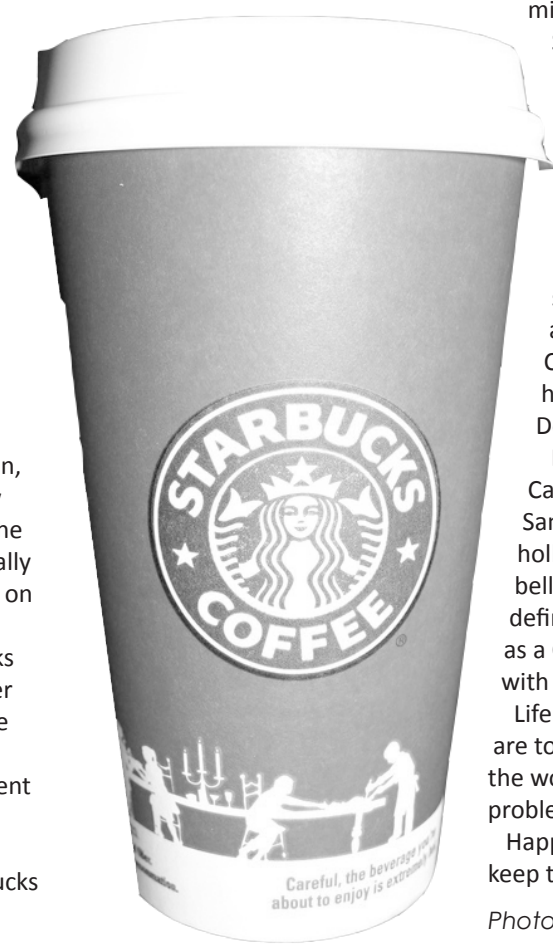
This just in: "Starbucks hates Jesus," according to evangelist Joshua Feuerstein.
Strap on your helmets, friends, because Starbucks has just declared war on Christmas.

The now plain red color of the cup could basically represent the bad blood between Starbucks and its newfound haters. *insert rolling eye emoji here*

If this isn't an example of a first-world problem, I don't know what is. I mean come on, people. It's just a cup! I know I'm not the only one seeing the ridiculousness of this, especially with "#ItsJustACup" trending on Twitter.

Here are the facts: Starbucks changed the design of a paper cup that holds coffee, and the cup is still red and green — trademark colors that represent Christmas.

While I am of the Christian faith, I do not see how Starbucks in any way, shape or form is trying to take Christ or Christmas out of the holiday season. I mean, I don't remember Starbucks ever claiming to be a Christian company, do you?



If anything, the company is attempting to be more accommodating to everyone, including Christians. Keep in mind that, according to Starbucks, the reasoning behind this unadorned cup is to allow customers to draw their own Christmas stories on a "blank canvas."

I can't help but think of the controversy between saying "Merry Christmas" and "Happy Holidays." Christmas is not the only holiday in the month of December.

In my opinion, Candace Cameron said it best, "A Santa, a snowflake, some holly, a polar bear, some jingle bells or plain red cup don't define my Christmas for me as a Christian. My relationship with Jesus does."

Life is too short, and there are too many awful things in the world for us to create more problems for ourselves.

Happy holidays, everyone. Let's keep them that way.

Photo from Creative Commons

Black-out Games

Julia Barry
Contributing Writer

Stake-outs, strategic battle plans, box cutters, frantic stampedes and fatal combat are not signs of a Hunger Games civilian rebellion. It's only Black Friday.

However, the behavior gets worse. Black Friday has become a battleground over bargain prices in which consumers sit for hours and sometimes days outside of stores hoping to attain expensive gifts, such as flat screen televisions, laptops, cameras, etc. Every year depicts horror stories of how the radical deals have turned relatively sane people into people capable of trampling, fighting, shooting and shanking other human beings.

The history of Black Friday began with the police department in Philadelphia who coined the term for all of the holiday shoppers who would flood the City of Brotherly Love searching for presents, according to Cable News Network. Many police officers were not allowed to schedule off for that day and were often required to work 12-hour shifts.

Preparations for the sales are a more daunting task now. Stores prepare for the impending battles by shrink wrapping the items that will go for sale at drastic prices and increasing the amounts of security on those days. Many malls and larger department stores prepare for the impending assaults with extra police officers.

Walmart began releasing its Black Friday Sales Ads as soon as the calendar turned from October to November. Some stores are even opening for the big sale day on Thanksgiving holiday, a trend which not only keeps consumers away from celebrating the holidays, but also employees.

Newscasters even broadcast the battle arena, known to most as Walmart. You don't even have to turn on your TV to see the casualties and carnage. Just pull up Twitter on your smart phone and look at the trending topics on the big day. It's a war of mass consumption, and only one victor may emerge with a 60-inch plasma screen TV.

Are today's Black Friday sales a more historically accurate representation of Thanksgiving than the Hallmark card version that Pillsbury sells in their crescent roll commercials?
The violence isn't necessarily essential to achieve good deals.

Most of the items and radical deals that you are looking for can be achieved by a small dose of patience that requires you to wait until "Cyber-Monday." A day in which you can attain the same or better deals without inconveniencing others on holidays, incurring bodily harm and leaving the comfort of your home. The best part about it: You can even stay in your pajamas.

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NS'U' Voice

Do you think that being considered offensive is something we should worry about in everything we do?



Senior, Biology Major

"Yes, we should always be aware of how we are portrayed to someone."



Junior, Allied Health Major

"It is not necessarily about being offensive. It is the way you come on to someone else. You have to be mindful of everyone's beliefs and opinions."



Senior, Secondary English Education Major

"It's not about our actions being offensive. It's about considering all people as human beings with different cultural experiences that need to be celebrated and respected."



Senior, Psychology Major

"I think our main concern should be to speak life into every aspect of our lives, to never be offensive. There's a right way to say everything."

Happy GPA awareness month

Essie Hullaby
News Editor

Every semester, there comes a time when some students come to the realization that their grades are in jeopardy and it is finally time to get their lives together. This time is usually after homecoming when all of the major partying of the term is complete. Midterm grades are the reality that slaps students in the face and encourages slackers to "get their head in the game."

GPA Awareness month isn't a specific month because academic calendars vary for each university. It is more like a season between mid-October and mid-November, but the term is understood. For some, Thanksgiving isn't even a break. The Thanksgiving holiday is another outlet that allows students to make up any work that they haven't done. Before the holiday, students can be seen in professors' offices discussing upcoming assignments. Hopefully these surprise visits can earn the students brownie points. At least this way the instructor knows that they are trying.

After missing friends and freedom over the Christmas holiday, some come back with the intention of keeping their heads in the books this time around. Unfortunately, the same season starts after spring break.

One might think that a lesson in procrastination would be learned, since this is a stressful way to live life. This is just what works for some students. Some students do some of their best work under pressure.

Things we wish Natchitoches had

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

Natchitoches may be the best Southern small town, but as far as development is concerned, there are a few lacking areas in the eyes of many NSU students.

According to suburbanstats.org, the current population in Natchitoches is 18,323 residents.

Considering that 9-10,000 Natchitoches residents are NSU students, one would think there would be a much greater influence on what the students want to experience in this college-driven town.

The list could go on and on, but here are a few top-charting contenders on everyone's Natchitoches wish list:

1. **Starbucks (coming soon)** – Honestly, it is shocking that it took this long for a Starbucks to be in the works. Kudos to Natchitoches for finally taking care of business.
2. **Chick-fil-A (duh)** – It is mind blowing that NSU's grill used to be Chick-fil-A… Baby come back…
3. **Target (tar-jay)** – Seriously, why don't we have a Target.
4. **A shopping mall** – We need more clothing stores (for men and women), beauty stores, etc., which could be brought by this one addition.
5. **More restaurants** – When I say more restaurants, I mean more of a variety of restaurants, aka NO MORE MEXICAN FOOD. Examples: Buffalo Wild Wings, Panera Bread, CHICK-FIL-A. (It's on here twice for a reason)
6. **More street lights** – For this being the "City of Lights," it sure is hard to find a well-lit streetlamp.
7. **Crosswalks** – For there to be so many foot-travelers on the road, it is shocking that Natchitoches isn't more pedestrian-friendly. A walk/don't walk sign would be nice.
8. **Bike lanes** – This is a stretch, but the roads need improvement, and this would be beneficial for the bikers on and off campus.
9. **More cell phone towers** – You were thinking it. Never have I related more to the "Can you hear me now?" Verizon commercial.
10. **More radio stations** – 91.7 is really the only one worth listening to. The others are either solely country music or picked up from Alexandria. Do better, Natchitoches.

Hopefully one day Natchitoches will get with the program and create a more college-friendly environment for its students while still maintaining its historic charm.

Until then, enjoy the character this town has. It is the best Southern small town for a reason.

Volleyball team ends season with loss, loses three key seniors

Ben Wellman
Sports Writer



Amanda Kunz (13), Caitlin O'Connell (7) and Glynna Johnson (9) were the three seniors who were honored during their last game. All three left with positive individual performances as each finished with double-figure kill numbers in their final home match as Lady Demons. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

The Lady Demon volleyball team had two more chances to save their season, and, despite a great effort, their season is over.

The Lady Demons gave themselves hope by defeating Incarnate Word 3-2, but two days later they lost to Abilene Christian by the same score. Those games put the Lady Demons' final overall record at 7-22 and their Southland record at 5-11.

Beginning with Incarnate Word, when the two sides met in San Antonio earlier this season, the Cardinals held off a late Lady Demon rally to win 3-2. In Prather Coliseum, the script was flipped, and the Lady Demons held off a Cardinal rally to win 3-2 to give their season some late hope.

The Lady Demons took the first two sets with potent offense. Senior Caiti O'Connell and freshman Reagan Rogers set the tone for the Lady Demons, as they took the first two sets 25-23 and 25-20, respectively.

The Lady Cardinals began to find a rhythm after halftime. Sets three and four were taken by the visitors, 25-22 and 25-20, respectively, before the Lady Demons took set five 15-12.

"We got a little tense with their comeback," Head Coach Sean Kiracofe said. "We settled down and got back to what we were doing. Our matchups were good. If we were passing well, we were going to score. That showed in the first two sets. (In the fifth set) we got back to that."

Two days after this victory, the seniors of the team closed the door on their Lady Demon careers against Abilene Christian. Seniors honored were O'Connell, Glynna Johnson and Amanda Kunz.

Unfortunately for the seniors and the team, their season ended on a sour note, as the visitors escaped Natchitoches with a 3-2 victory. Despite the result, all three seniors put up positive numbers in their final matches in the Lady Demon uniform.

"They were fantastic," Kiracofe said. "We had some slow starts at the beginning, but they came back, fought and did not want to go out without trying to take back the match. They accomplished that."

The visitors took the first two sets, 28-26 and 25-22, then the Lady Demons rallied back after halftime and took the third and fourth sets, 25-23 and 25-16, to get to the fifth set.

Things didn't go exactly as planned in the fifth set. After trading leads and timeouts a couple times, the visitors eventually took the fifth set 20-18 to end the Lady Demons' season and the seniors' careers.

The Lady Demons put up good numbers in their final two games. Offensively, O'Connell led the team in kills with 38 in the two games, with Johnson in second with 27 total kills. Defensively, junior Bailey Martin led the team with 42 digs in the two games, with junior Natalie Jaeger contributing 30 total digs herself. Johnson will leave Northwestern State University as the school's single-season and career leader in block assists. She will leave in the top three in block solos as well.

The Lady Demons' season has concluded, falling short of the Southland tournament. This was a bit of a transitional year as they were under a new head coach. They'll be looking to come back stronger than ever next season.



The Battle for Chief Caddo begins Saturday at 3 p.m. in Turpin. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

50th showdown for the Battle of Chief Caddo

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

The Chief Caddo, standing 7.5 feet tall, weighing about 330 pounds in solid wood is the largest trophy in college football given to the winner of the annual, season-ended game between NSU and Stephen F. Austin (SFA).

NSU and SFA have been playing for Chief Caddo since 1961, and NSU has a 28-14-1 advantage in the trophy game. Currently, the Chief Caddo resides at SFA after the Lumberjacks won the 2014 battle 27-24 in Nacogdoches, Texas.

The finale, which will be the 50th showdown for the Battle of Chief Caddo, will kick off Saturday afternoon at 3 p.m. in Turpin Stadium. It will be senior night for the Demons, as 21 players will be honored in pregame ceremonies.

The Demons are 3-7, 3-5 in conference play looking for a fourth win to cap off what would be an interesting season. After starting 0-5, the Demons managed to come out of a bye, winning three of their last five games, heading into Saturday night. Northwestern State enters the weekend averaging 27.4 points and 389.6 yards of total offense per game, running a balanced offensive attack that averages 197.8 yards on the ground and 191.8 yards through the air.

SFA, coming off a huge win against Houston Baptist, are 4-6 and 4-4 in conference play. The Lumberjacks, who also started their season 0-5, are now averaging 29.9 points, 216.4 rushing yards and 224.5 passing yards per game as their defense has accumulated a total of 18 sacks so far.

For two seniors, the game will determine if they could each make one more entry in the school career record book. Receiver Ed Eagan is 71 yards away from breaking the Demons' receiving yardage record of 2,223 by Pat Palmer (1994-97). Kicker Chris Moore is one field goal shy of Robert Weeks' mark of 42 from 2005-08.

Torn ACL puts West's senior season to a halt

Sports Information Directory

Results from an MRI Tuesday confirmed initial fears that Northwestern State's sensational senior point guard Jalan West, drawing attention from national media and NBA scouts, will need season-ending surgery to repair a torn ACL in his left knee, said Demons coach Mike McConathy.

"It's very disheartening, especially in the case of a great young man who has given everything to our program," said McConathy. "We're saddened by it, but we have to trust and believe there's a reason for this. God has something down the road he's planning, and we just have to hold to that.

"His impact is immeasurable. He's done so many things in this program, not simply from a basketball perspective. He's won a lot of games here, been to an NCAA Tournament, and we were trying to get a bookend, one in his senior year to go with the one in his freshman year. That won't happen now, for him as a player, but he will continue to make impact but in a different way," said McConathy.

West was injured in a collision at the end of a drive to the basket in the final minute of Friday evening's season opener at Ole Miss, won by the Rebels 90-76. He scored 25 points, 24 after halftime while sinking 8 of 10 shots. The NCAA assist leader last year, West had six assists in Friday's game, slightly below his 6.4 career average that ranks third among all college players this year.

The 5-10 Bossier City native, who led Bossier High to a state championship as a senior, is the NCAA's career assists leader among active players with 614. Last year he led the country at 7.7 assists per game and was 16th in scoring at 20.0 per game.

He is the fifth-ranked career scorer in NSU history with 1,592 points and was on pace to break the school record. He was also on track to become the Demons' career steals leader, and last year set the single-season and career assists records.

West's career 2.6-1 assists-to-turnovers ratio ranks him in the top 15 in NCAA basketball history. The Demons led the nation in scoring last year after ranking second in his first two seasons on the court. NSU is 59-37 in his 96-game career, 45-16 in Southland Conference regular-season and tournament games, and reached two national postseason tournaments, the 2013 NCAA and last year's CollegeInsider.com event.

West will have surgery in 2-3 weeks, said head athletic trainer Jason Drury. The typical recovery for an "isolated" ACL injury like West has is about six months for a full return, he said.

His new perspective did not lessen West's optimism about the season.

"I'm still feeling confident in my team. I just have to take a different role, handle the adversity and complete the task that God has planned for me," he said. "I still think we're going to win conference."

NSU will pursue all avenues in efforts to appeal for West to be granted a sixth year of eligibility after the 2015-16 season. West sat out his true freshman year due to an NCAA Clearinghouse issue, but is on track to graduate in May and said he will consider all options available to him next year.

"Graduation is the most important thing, just being a student-athlete. Since I'm not able to play, I'll just try to coach up the guys and do rehab and get better," said West. "Whenever I get back (healthy), I'll just try to go to the NBA or take a medical redshirt, whichever God has planned."

DraftExpress.com recently ranked West 50th among all NCAA basketball seniors. CBS Sports rated him 69th on its preseason list of the top 100 players in college basketball, while College Basketball Talk (NBC Sports) rated him 93rd.



West was ranked among the "20 Most Exciting Players in College Basketball" this summer by Brian Pederson of BleacherReport.com. For the third straight season, he is on the preseason watch list for the Lou Henson Award given to the top player at the mid-major level of the college game.

The respected statistical analytic website KenPom.com listed him as one of the five members of this year's "Shooters Club," the top five 3-point shooters in major college basketball based exclusively on their performances in all aspects of shooting against Division I opponents.

At Ole Miss, West erupted after halftime, hitting seven consecutive shots at one stretch as he made 8 of 10 overall, including 6 of 7 from 3-point range, several of those well behind the 19-foot, 9-inch 3-point arc.

"He went Steph Curry on us," said Ole Miss coach Andy Kennedy, referring to the explosive star guard for the NBA champion Golden State Warriors.

"He put on a performance that was second to none," said McConathy. "He's special. A scout there was amazed at how talented he is. Every time he played, he certainly amazed me. I knew he would be a great player, but I never knew he would be as great as he is, just phenomenal.

"His future is bright. He'll stay the course, graduate, working very hard to rehab his knee and get himself in position to continue his career as a basketball player," said McConathy.

West emerged last season as one of the nation's top players. He is ranked No. 50 among DraftExpress.com's NCAA seniors, and was 69th on CBS Sports' preseason list of top 100 players in college basketball, along with 93rd on the College Basketball Talk (NBC Sports) preseason top 100 list.

He was also recently cited as one of the top five 3-point shooters in college basketball by KenPom.com, a website that features detailed statistical analysis of the game.

West is one of 40 players, including teammate Zeek Woodley, on the Lou Henson Award watchlist for the mid-major player of the year.

He leads all active NCAA players with 614 career assists early in his senior year, is second with 219 steals, third in assist-to-turnover ratio (2.60), steals per game (2.31) and assists per game (6.4) while ranking fourth in points scored (1,592).

West is the Demons' career assists leader, and also holds school records for 3-pointers made in a career (210). He ranks fifth all time at NSU in scoring and is 417 shy of the school record of 2,009 points by Billy Reynolds from 1973-77.

He won Southland Conference player of the week honors Monday for his performance at Ole Miss.

Sophomore point guard Devonte Hall, who was a Bossier High School freshman starter when West led the Bearkats to the 2011 state title, stepped into the starting five Monday night in NSU's first game without West. Hall had career highs of 16 points and 11 assists, and made no turnovers, in the Demons' 99-97 loss to LSU Alexandria.

"Devonte has followed Jalan at Bossier High School and we envisioned that taking place here, just not this early," said McConathy. "Devonte played wonderfully Monday. He has his own style, but they do share some characteristics such as toughness and intelligence, leadership, and he already made game-winning plays for us as a freshman last year, so he's got poise under pressure proven at this level."

Hall drove the length of the court for a buzzer-beating, spinning six-foot game-winning basket in a 103-101 victory over Incarnate Word last season, and blocked a shot in the closing seconds to clinch a victory over McNeese State.

Tuesday afternoon, McConathy reflected on the remarkable unselfishness of his senior point guard.

"Sunday, I got a text from his pastor, and he said, 'be encouraged, Coach. Jalan was in church today and came up to me after the service, and said, please pray for Coach Mike, he's not handling this very well.' Now think about that, a person who's lost his opportunity to play this season, and he's worried about his old coach."



Position Guard
Ht./Wt. 5-11 / 185
Class Sr.
Letters 3
Hometown
Bossier City, LA
Highschool
Bossier HS

Attacks on Paris

"This is a terrible ordeal which once again assails us. We know where it comes from, who these criminals are, who these terrorists are. In these difficult moments, we must — and I'm thinking of the many victims, their families and the injured — show compassion and solidarity. But we must also show unity and calm. Faced with terror, France must be strong, it must be great and the state authorities must be firm. We will be. We must also call on everyone to be responsible."

-French President François Hollande

Continued from Front

The reality began to sink in for Bowden when news came out about all six attacks and the death toll began to rise by the dozens, up to 129. Bowden said the "weight of the situation" really sunk in for her when Paris attacked Syria in response to the suicide bombings, which ISIS claimed responsibility for soon after.

She said her friends who frequent the metro have pointed out the uneasiness still lingering there when they travel, noticing that people are far more quiet and alert of their surroundings. Bowden said there were guards posted at major sites in the city.

"It makes me feel safer because I see them around," Bowden said. "Their presence is a lot more apparent."

Although Bowden welcomed the support from the U.S. government, social media and practically the entire world, she was leery about the hastiness of military response, the renewed anxiety over Syrian refugees and the crisis of conscious it has caused, and the double-standard in public support for Western countries versus Middle Eastern countries rattled by war.

She said she believed people were more hesitant to support the controversial Middle Eastern countries but would quickly jump on board in support of the "City of Love." Others have called Facebook out for using the "safety check" feature, which was previously only used in natural disasters.

Al Jazeera published an article on how people in Beirut, Lebanon – where 43 died the day before from similar ISIS attacks – felt marginalized by the preference shown to the Western World. Mark Zuckerber, Facebook's founder and CEO, responded with a statement that this was the first time they used the safety feature for terrorist attacks, but that they will apply the technique to all people in future situations, according to the article.

The New York Times sited a blog post by Lebanese doctor Elie Fares in response to the outpour of support for France:

"When my people died, no country bothered to light up its landmarks in the colors of their flag. When my people died, they did not send the world into mourning. Their death was but an irrelevant fleck along the international news cycle, something that happens in those parts of the world."

Also stirring controversy after the event are the treatment of Syrian refugees, where governors of numerous states, including Louisiana, moved to suspend or restrict President Obama's plan for 10,000 refugees to be settled in the next year, according to an article on Fox News's website.

Those in France are also undergoing a twelve-day state of emergency, which may be extended to three months. The state has boosted security in schools, banned public gatherings and enforced strict border controls, although most flights to and from Paris won't be affected, according to an article by the French publication The Local. Bowden still plans to return to the U.S. on Nov. 29.

The aftermath has largely been composed of talks over how to handle refugees, after a falsified Syrian passport was found beside the dead body of one of the attackers. He was confirmed to have posed as a Syrian migrant, gaining entrance into Greece.

Another NSU student had a connection to Paris as a former resident, though she was in Natchitoches far from home at the time of the attack. Junior Clarisse Gaucel, who serves as a French tutor and a member of the French club, said her initial reaction was to think "again?" She said she couldn't believe it was happening for the second time in 10 months.

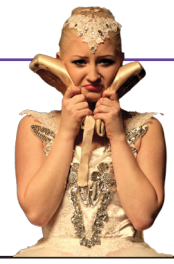
She said she immediately tried to contact her family, since most of them live in Paris, and was relieved to hear that they were all okay.

"It really touched me deep in the heart… It hurts to see your country going through something like that, especially when you live thousands of miles away and you cannot do anything to help," Gaucel said. "I feel like we are not safe anymore anywhere we go."

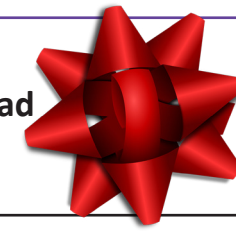




'Gala madness' told through student diary
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Other ways to celebrate Christmas here and abroad
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Student gives opinion on why 'safe space' is getting hate
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THE CURRENT SAUCE

Students talk Webb's legacy

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-chief

On Nov. 16, the Demon family suffered a great loss with the passing of Dr. Randall J. Webb, who retired in 2014 after 18 years of service as the university's longest-serving president.

During his presidency, Webb fought countless battles for students and for the university he dedicated his life's work to. It's where he and his wife Brenda grew old together.

Webb became an iconic and respected figure both on campus and throughout the state, but that alone does not capture his legacy.

He did not carry himself as an aloof figurehead, but as a friend to people of all ages and all walks of life, according to the many faculty and students with whom he crossed paths.

Lori Leblanc, alumna and deputy Title IX cooridinator, said that Webb was a personal cheerleader in her life, as well as in the lives of the many students for whom he functioned as more a mentor than a president.

"There was this non-traditional student that showed up in his office somehow, and he walked him over here and introduced him to Francis, and then he walked him over and introduced him to academic advising," Leblanc said. She said she saw him do this all the time.

Leblanc said that Webb seemed to truly get it, to understand people, how they worked and what motivated them to be better.

"He really understood that it's a process to become a student, and a lot of people don't know that process well and need to be kind of comforted and mentored through that, and he always took the time to do that too," she said. "We used to tease that he should have been a career counselor instead of a president because he was so good at meeting students and mentoring them and helping them get to the right place."

Dean of Students Francis Conine also emphasized this quality in Webb of always seeking to help people reach their potential.

"He was a good leader, he was a good president and a great teacher, but he loved doing that one-on-one career counseling to be sure that people were finding their passion," Conine said.

Conine recalled a memorable moment when she and Webb were working on a grant together. She had run out of steam, and he told her a corny anecdote. She said it gave her the power to rise up, and that she continues to recall those words when she finds herself struggling to rise to the occasion.



The Webbs were honored for their committment to the university at Dr. Webb's retirement ceremony. Students and staff were in attendance to celebrate his achievements and wish them well. *Photo by Karalee Scouten*

Numerous students, who connected with Dr. Webb at one point in their brief time at NSU and whose names and interests he never forgot, have echoed this same experience.

Senior double major in accounting and business administration, Sadie Viga, said the first time she met Webb at a campus event he sat with her for 45 minutes, talking her through her struggle with choosing major and encouraging her to do what she loved.

Continued on back

Varnado Hall faces challenges with living conditions and resources

Meg Denny
Staff Writer

Over the years, Varnado Hall has gradually decreased in popularity among students. Residents are now usually placed in Varnado Hall when no space is left in the other housing areas, and freshmen and students who submit paperwork late are typically the ones assigned to Varnado.

Resident Shaquita Jones is angry about the lack of resources she receives in Varnado compared to the amenities in University Place and Columns. "I feel ripped off," she said, noting that the prices of the dorms are the same as the University Place residence halls but the provided materials are not.

In addition to the lack of items and space Jones notices at her dorm, many technological and maintenance problems are affecting Varnado Hall as well.

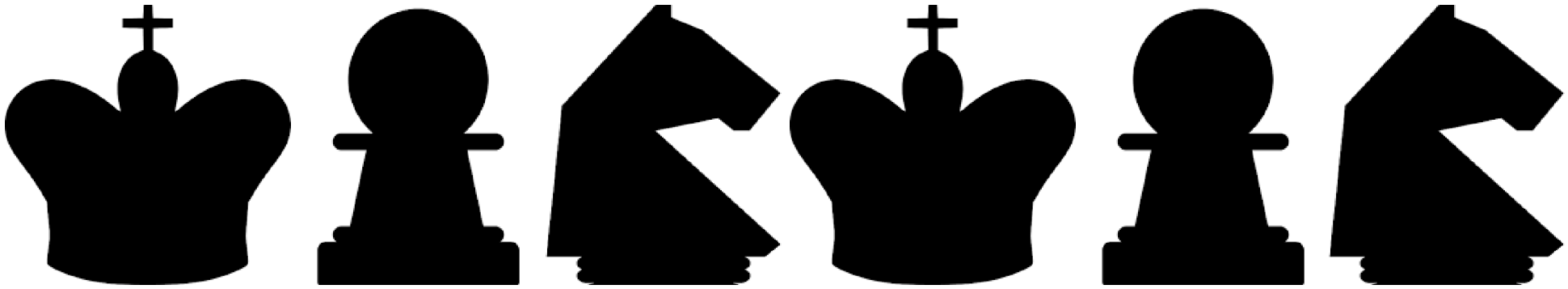
According to Varnado resident Malik Victorian, the residents were promised internet before move-in day, but when they arrived, the building had no WiFi until the ballroom got WiFi on Sept. 22. But students still have to provide their own Ethernet cables for a wired internet connection in their rooms.

While the ballroom does provide a space for students to utilize the hall's WiFi and study space, a majority of the furniture is broken. Many residents have confirmed that most of the broken furniture, though not all, suffered damage before new residents moved into dorms this fall.

Continued on Page 2



One problem students face in Varnado Hall is the condition of the laundry room, which contains broken machines and a damp, moldy environment. Students also lack access to WiFi, except in the ballroom, which did not have lights until Nov. 17. Renovations are planned for the building, but a date for this project has not been confirmed. Before they begin, administrators must confirm who the building will house. *Photo by Meg Denny*



Free thinking without the stress

Developing chess club encourages open conversations, preferring quality time over quantity

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-chief

"It's pretty much fight club," senior Thomas Moore sat stirring a cup of coffee with a straw, contemplating his next words. "It's an unofficial organization. It happens off campus. People talk about it, but not very many people have actually been. People don't really know if it exists or not."

Moore was one of the few eye-witnesses. In fact, Moore was the founder. He made his "brainchild" a reality this October. He said he also bore an uncanny resemblance with the character of Tyler Durden, the alter-ego of Edward Norton's character in the movie Fight Club.

"I'm definitely Tyler Durden, unfortunately," he said. Moore loves coffee, the cult-classic movie *Fight Club* and chess and has combined all those interests in his unofficial Sunday night chess club, which is on the road to being a Recognized Student Organization. Although the group differs from a fight club in that there is no actual hand-to-hand combat, he said there are some clear similarities.

Like *Fight Club*, chess club only has a few set rules. It's a small club, and it's unstructured. It will also help people grow as people, like people in the movie *Fight Club*, revealing new things about themselves, Moore said. "Maybe you're good at chess and you didn't know, maybe you're a little more social than you think you are, or maybe you think you're like the social butterfly but it turns out that you're only a social butterfly when loud music is playing," he said. "Who knew."

Although the group's visual resemblance to *Fight Club* may have been a stretch, Moore saw a common thread.

The first rule of *Fight Club*, however, needs to be broken with the chess club, he says. He wants people to talk about it. In fact, he actually encourages it. The group does have their own rule to replace this one, and it may deter party-leeches just looking for a full house to crash.

"There's only one rule of chess club," he looked up from his drink. "You have to play at least one game of chess at chess club."

It's the limit for some, and he's okay with that. The environment is purposefully relaxed so that people are encouraged to think critically without the burden of stress. Moore said he and the other founders wanted to remind people that using their brain doesn't have to be a negative experience.

"You're thinking freely without being forced to do it," he said, recalling with angst all the anxiety-filled hours that seven semesters of paper-writing as a Scholars' College student has put him through. "When you do a school assignment, you're doing it because you have to do it for some reason." The phrase "have to" irks him, and he enjoys doing things that he gets to choose.

He said that people also discover unexpected common ground when taking a rookie stab at thoughtful conversation during chess club, a practice that he believes is increasingly becoming a lost art.

Often the only social environments college students are exposed to are parties where people interact under the heavy sedative of alcohol, Moore said. He feels young people are losing the art of engaging each other person-to-person, stretched thin as they are among their internet following and distracted constantly by their cellular devices.

Moore describes himself as an old soul, in search of quality down time instead of the endless screen time that for most fills the holes between obligations. The idea for a chess club hit him this semester, as he was sitting in a coffee shop.

"I wanted to play chess with some people and there was no one there to play chess with," Moore said as he sipped his homemade latte. "I decided that we needed a chess club… as a way to use your brain for something other than writing papers all the time."

Coffee, tea, a little jazz and some good conversation, and, yes, chess goes on at Moore's little green house off campus on Sunday nights from 6 p.m. until "whenever," although he may change the time to fit busy schedules.

"While you're not playing chess, if you want to dance to whatever's playing feel free to do so," he said. "If you want to sit and talk about the election or about your favorite TV show… you're still in an atmosphere that's conducive to those things."

The plan for next semester is to make the chess club an offical RSO, with the needed bylaws and signatures. The goal isn't to make it a really large and competitive club, since he's looking for quality over quantity and atmosphere over aptitude. Rookies and rook-sies alike are all welcome to join.

Moore added that there will be a special clause in the bylaws for the Tyler Durden inspired, mock-dictatorial atmosphere they seek to foster. Democracy will, therefore, not apply within the four-corners of the chess board. The group will not elect a new president. He will instead be appointed. They will be "czar" and "vice-czar."

"Is there a chess club? Who knows. Is there a Facebook group? There might be," Moore said while, of course, sipping the last swig of his French Vanilla.

SGA weekly meeting minutes: Monday Nov. 30

- Aly Jacobs was elected to be the new treasurer for next semester.
- According to President Matthew Whitaker, all TVs on campus will now move to digital.
- New charging stations will soon be available around campus, and charging lockers for laptops and tablets will also be available.
- Funding for the new Academic Learning Center has been approved for the library.
- The Starbucks in the library is predicted to be completed by late January.
- SGA has approved a parking bill that will require color-coded parking decals for the Fall 2016 semester. The colors will correspond with the color-coded signs that will be placed in each lot. Drivers will be allowed to park only in the lots their sticker indicates. Additionally, parking maps will be placed at every school entrance for extra clarity. The bill also requests that administration take more steps toward educating drivers about the parking rules on campus.







Showers in Varnado Hall are covered in rust and glass is missing from windows. Other problems include WiFi access and broken furniture. Curfew is enforced in Varnado with guests having to sign out by 11 p.m. *Photos by Meg Denny*

Challenges with living conditions and resources

Continued from front

Much of the damaged furniture has been removed since Thanksgiving break, but a pile of broken chairs, along with other items, still remains. Dean of Students France Conine and President Jim Henderson affirm that renovations are in the works for Varnado, though nothing is set in stone yet. The renovations will likely turn Varnado into a living and learning environment for a bonded group on campus, like CAPA students.

One problem with changing the condition of Varnado Hall is that the university does not have control over any on-campus housing. CLV owns all of the housing buildings in operation except for Varnado; the University owns this residence hall, but under contract CLV controls it.

"Varnado is a historical building. It's one the university wants to hang onto," Conine said. "There's this idea that Varnado is somehow less, and it really isn't. Varnado, to me, is a great place…but it does need to be improved. Absolutely."

When the renovations do come, the communal bathrooms will remain, but they will be redone. "College students today say they don't like communal bathrooms, but when you have a bonded group, those kinds of things seem less important," Conine said.

Because the bathrooms are communal, Alfred said that residents are required to sign in their guests and that their guests must leave by 11 p.m. Guests cannot take up the already limited space in the showers. "The guest situation makes me feel like I have a curfew," Shaquita said, pointing out that the other residential halls do not keep track of the guests coming in and out.

Although the renovations will reconstruct the bathrooms in the residence hall, the current state of the communal showers is questionable. Alfred affirmed that the custodial company Red River does clean the bathrooms, though she isn't sure they can do much with the rust-encrusted floors of the showers.

Faded, white streaks cover the concrete shower walls, and many ceiling tiles about the showers are missing. "I try not to touch the walls when I shower," Shiessence said. According to her, the girls' bathrooms often suffer from backups and clogs.

Many residents admitted to not reporting these issues to their RA staff, but Alfred is aware of many issues and has reported them to her bosses of CLV. Dale Wohletz of Facility Services stated that they handle the plumbing and electrical maintenance at Varnado, and fix any problems they receive through submitted work orders. Additionally, they perform routine inspections of the building before students move in.

Students are typically transferred from Varnado to other residential halls in the Spring in the order that they applied for housing. According to Alfred, this process last year did not end until March, the middle of the Spring semester.

Resident Perry has not yet received confirmation that she will be transferred next semester. Perry said that she is ready to get out of the hall, where she finds that there is little privacy. "I knew that Varnado wasn't like the other dorms, but I didn't know it was this bad," she stated.

Varnado Hall has it's drawbacks, but Victorian believes that the small residential hall gives Varnado dwellers an easier way to bond with each other. "I like living here because I've heard that in other places you don't get the space to hang out with people," he said. Here at Varnado, he believes that you can form strong friendships.

Multiple attempts were made to contact CLV staff, but they were not available for an interview. An RA working in the University Place Clubhouse stated that to take an interview, the CLV employees have to submit a request to corporate located in Texas.

Language lab gets face lift

Essie Hullaby
News editor

French club fell off of the radar a few years ago, but thanks to the work of its executive board the club for one of the languages of romance is back.

Liberal arts major Kirsten Fontenot serves as the secretary of French Club.

"The purpose of French Club is to cultivate another culture," started the junior. "We have people of different levels. There are people who haven't taken a French class since high school, and we have Karla and Manney who are close to fluent."

Fontenot said that the wide range of fluency helps to teach others who are on the bottom end. There isn't a standard agenda for their meetings.

"We've had a movie night where we watched French movies with English subtitles," the junior said. "We've had a food fair. Everyone brought different French foods. One of the French foreign exchange students brought traditional French food."

This past meeting the club had a game night, where they played French scrabble. Fontenot's goal for the club next semester is to become more involved on campus.

"We are trying to get a bigger presence on campus so people will know that we exist," she said.

"A lot of people know about Spanish club, but not many know about French. Being from Louisiana I think it's important that we should know this is where we came from, this is our root."

Much like the French club, the Spanish Club's meetings don't have concrete lineups. "We've had Colombians come out and show us things like Salsa or teach us about music," president Jasmon Clayton said. "Our vice president, she's Colombian and she also talked to us about the difference between "Hispanic," "Latina" and "Spanish," the different words for touchy subjects."

Clayton hopes for the foreign language lab to serve as a sort of a safe haven for students. With the help of Dr. Benjamin Forkner and Dr. Marcus Jones, changing the room number and the environment of the language lab is where the revisions will start.

"We are trying to make it a place where people can come and listen to their music and study, just a chill environment for everyone to enjoy and relax," Clayton said.

The new lab will allow students to be more comfortable studying.

"Some students like to hear things, some students like to see things, like interaction," Clayton said. "All of that will be available in the new language lab."

French club meets on Thursdays in Room 335 in Kyser Hall. Spanish Club meets on Tuesdays in Room 321 in the student union. For additional information about French Club, contact president Karla Ewing.

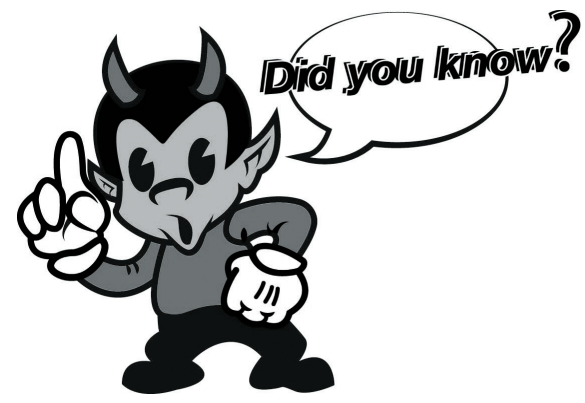




Rehearsal for CAPA's annual Christmas Gala kept students busy especially the night before when they ran through the performance twice. *Photos by Hannah Richardson and Steven Sheerin*







Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

For many, Northwestern's annual Christmas Gala is famous campus tradition, but in the past, it was merely an orchestra concert before the Christmas Festival of Lights.

According to Bill Brent in an article written by the Alumni Association, when he became the head of the Creative and Performing Arts Department, he wanted to make the concert have a more prominent presence—something people would want to attend.

Brent, along with his collaboration partner Dr. Jack Wann, coordinator of the theatre and dance department, was inspired by the Radio City Music Hall's Christmas Spectacular and decided to design the performance to showcase everything CAPA had to offer.

Brent said he wanted to "strike a balance" of Christmas fun for people of all ages. As the performance grew some consistent areas of the show became favorites: the tin soldiers and percussion performance.

Over the years, the Gala grew from a one-evening performance to five daytime shows and four evening shows.

According to the NSU Alumni Association, two more showings will be added when the show goes on tour Dec. 12 to the Strand Theatre in Shreveport for the first time this year.

The Christmas Gala is planned as early as the spring before and students begin rehearsing up to three months before they set foot on stage. Brent said it is a wonderful opportunity for students to experience what it is expected of them when they enter the profession of entertainment.

The most wonderful *CRIME* of the year

Gala survivor gives backstage look at what participating in annual Christmas performance really entails

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

One single black character shoe flies off a dancing foot, hurling into the air and toward the orchestra pit as a multitude of eyes follow its path. The guilty rockette maintains her showbiz grin and finishes the kick line with so much pizazz that people wonder if her shoe just couldn't handle all of her personality. What her shoe really couldn't handle was something we CAPA kids call Gala madness.

Once a year, all of the departments in CAPA cooperate with each other to present nine shows of the Christmas Gala over the course of three days, a feat about as ambitious and absurd as Santa miraculously delivering gifts to the entire world in one night. Unlike Santa, however, we are full-time students.

With the Christmas Gala always comes the madness. It is the mysterious force that causes shoes to fly off and costumes to malfunction. It is the delirium that sets in around your fifth performance and you can't tell if you're hallucinating that many Santas flipping across the stage or you are going crazy. It is the exhaustion that causes fake eyelashes to crookedly droop off of the blood-shot eyes of sleep-deprived ballerinas who are forced to perform in a three-day marathon of Christmas cheer for children and old people.

I could go on and on, but it is futile to explain Gala to someone who hasn't been a victim of its tortures. Because I desperately want someone to understand and appreciate my pain, I've exposed the contents of my personal diary which contain some of my darkest thoughts during Gala madness. I am a Gala survivor and these are my angst-ridden journal entires.



GALA survivor Ashley Wolf puts on her game face as she prepares to perfom in the biggest production of the year. A junior majoring in Communication and minoring in dance, Wolf has participated in Gala every year she has been enrolled at NSU. For Wolf surviving Gala involves red bull, coffee and as many naps as possible. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

Time: The eve of Gala, 7 p.m.
Location: Dress rehearsal, A.A. Fredericks

Cramming all of CAPA into A.A. Fredericks is like cramming every animal into Noah's goddamn ark—loud, crowded and stressful. Just like the door to the ark sealing shut before the flood, we will be sealed into A.A. Fredericks for three days and three nights. I say a prayer for my mental health: "Dear God, deliver me from this zoo and keep me from having a mental breakdown until Gala is over. Amen."

Time: The butt crack of a glorious dawn (6:30)
Location: My bed

One of my seven alarms jolts me out of dead slumber and I force myself get out of bed so that I can head over to the theater for warm-up. Our dance professors revel in this hour-long morning torture session. They love to laugh at us while we sleep-cry and try to dance at the same time. After warm-up, I attempt to put makeup on my sweaty face after warm-up and realize that it's a bad idea. Applying makeup this early at all is bad idea. My face looks like a five year-old attempted the drag queen look.

Time: Approximately 9:45 a.m.
Location: The wings of the A.A. Fredericks stage

Wearing a tutu should guarantee that I look like an ethereal snowflake, but dancing with pointe shoes on this early in the morning is like a drunk pirate trying to walk tightrope. I try to mentally prepare myself by thinking of cute puppies and sweet potato fries. This seems to help.

Time: 11:30 a.m
Location: The CAPA hallway

After the performance, everyone flocks to the tables with our complimentary sandwiches like it's Black Friday at Best Buy. It's an all around negative experience with the lack of vegetarian sandwiches and people pushing and shoving. I just want to yell, "Get out of our building!" But I just pick the slimy pieces of ham off of my sandwich in silence. This sandwich riot has left me feeling not only disgusted with ham, but disgusted with the human race. Time for show #2.

Time: 5:15 p.m.
Location: A.A. Fredericks

I return from an hour nap looking like an elephant sat on my face. Note to self: don't fall asleep with fake lashes on. After our evening warm-up, I attempt to smack on some foundation over my old foundation, and it looks like I've smoked cigarettes for at least 100 years. No one can see my clogged pores from the audience anyway so there's no point in fixing it.

Time: 8:30 p.m.
Location: The A.A. Fredericks lobby

After the last show I go out to meet my parents looking like I've done enough hard drugs since they last saw me at Thanksgiving to turn into Linday Lohan. They look worried.

Time: 11 a.m.
Location: Home

After icing my swollen ankles for an excruciating 15 minutes and showering, I set my seven alarms for the next morning. Before I fall asleep, I try to muster up a positive thought to prepare me for the next two days. "Maybe I can play Lindsay Lohan's twin in a messed up TV reboot of the 'Parent Trap,'" After two more days of this, I will probably turn into Lindsay Lohan herself.

‘Tis the season to celebrate diversity

Javonti Thomas
Contributing Writer

The United States is a melting pot of many different cultures and traditions, and Natchitoches is no exception.

During December, department stores are filled with wreaths, grocery stores are selling eggnog, KNWD radio is playing Christmas music and Natchitoches is lighting the sky with fireworks.

While Christmas is a prevalent holiday celebrated by many U.S. families, there are other religions and cultures celebrating other things at this time of the year right here in Natchitoches.



Photo from Creative Commons

Hanukkah

Hanukkah, or The Jewish Festival of Lights, is an eight-day Jewish celebration beginning on the 25th of the Hebrew month, Kislev.

The holiday is in observation of Judah reclaiming the Temple from the Syrians. When Judah returned with his followers to Jerusalem, only one small cruse of oil — enough oil for one day — could be found to light the Temple’s menorah, a candelabrum that holds eight candles.

A miracle occurred. Despite the small amount of oil, the oil burned in the Temple for eight days instead of one as predicted. Thus, the celebration of the oil miracle began.

Jewish families gather around the menorah each night to light the candles from left to right. Each night members of the family light one additional candle until all eight candles are lit. Fried foods are also part of the tradition because of the significance of oil.

Gift-giving is not a traditional tradition but has been incorporated because of Christian influence.

Kwanzaa

Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration held in the United States and nations in Africa. Maulana Karenga, an African American studies professor and social advocate, created this holiday. The holiday was first observed in 1966 to honor African American cultures and traditions.

“Kwanzaa was created to reaffirm and restore our rootedness in African culture,” Karenga said. The tradition includes families gathering around to light the Kinara, a candle holder with seven candles colored red, black and green.

The red candle symbolizes bloodshed during slavery and the civil rights movement. The black candle symbolizes the people, and the green candle symbolizes the land of Africa.

Ramadan

The people of Islam around the world celebrate Ramadan to commemorate the month the prophet Mohammed is believed to have revealed their holy book, the Koran, to God.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, and during this celebration Muslims are not allowed to eat or drink during daytime hours. Only when the sun sets are Muslims allowed to break their strict fasting traditions.

During this time, the cuisine consists of Egyptian desserts, sweets stuffed with nuts and dates. Mohammed is believed to have eaten dates each day of the fasting month.

The days are spent in prayer and reflection until the breaking of fast festival, Eid al-Fitr, ends Ramadan.

Winter Solstice

Occuring on either Dec. 21 or 22, the winter solstice is an astronomical phenomenon which marks the shortest day and the longest night of the year. This event occurs in the Northern hemisphere in December and the Southern hemisphere in June. The solstice originally became an important part of people’s lives due to their dependence on monitoring the progression of the seasons.

It was important to know when to harvest crops and begin preparing for the span between October and July, which were known as “the famine months.” It later became associated with a Scandinavian pagan holiday: Yule. Christmas borrows many of its traditions from Yule, such as the Christmas tree, Christmas wreaths and the burning of the Yule log. The day is still deeply rooted in Scandinavian culture and is celebrated annually.

Boxing Day

Although it is primarily celebrated in Great Britain and Canada, Boxing Day is one of the premier shopping days of the year. The origins of this day are shrouded in mystery, some believing that it came from servants in England forced to work on Christmas day. The following day, it is said they were presented with gift boxes from their superiors, making the day after Christmas a time for collecting gifts.

Today only people from Australia, the UK, Canada, and New Zealand still celebrate it by enjoying various deals that stores offer. In many ways, Boxing Day is the original Black Friday; this version, however, is celebrated the day after Christmas.

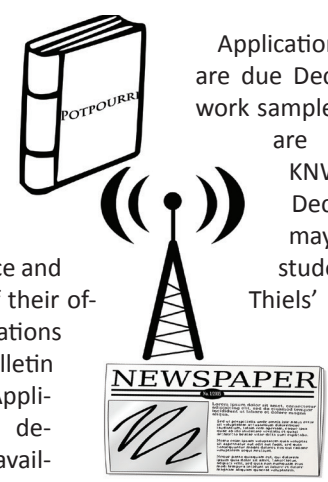
Student Media applications available for Spring 2016

The Current Sauce, Potpourri and KNWD are currently accepting applications for the spring semester.

The Current Sauce is looking for section editors, copy editors, designers, photographers, multimedia editors/workers, social media experts, distributers, ad sales representatives and writers.

Potpourri is looking for an associate editor, lead writer, lead photographer and designers.

KNWD is looking for an internal music director, external music director, program director, DJ coordinator, news coordinator, news reporter/writer, sports broadcaster, productions director, public relations director, head of live music and events, promotional events coordinator, head of technology, online media manager, business manager and freshman intern.



Applications for The Current Sauce and Potpourri can be found outside of their offices, Room 225 of Kyser. Applications for KNWD can be found on the bulletin board outside the radio station. Applications, available staff positions, descriptions and requirements are available on OrgSync.

Applications for The Current Sauce are due Dec. 9, along with relevant work samples. Potpourri applications are due by December 2. KNWD applications are due December 3. Applications may be turned in online or to student media advisor Daniel Thiels’ office, Room 225E of Kyser.

If Daniel is unavailble, applications may be slipped under his door.

Paid positions now available

Current Sauce *newspaper*

Potpourri *yearbook*

KNWD *radio*



Kayla Ryan dresses for "strong" vibe in a maroon button down with ripped black jeans. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Demon Style

Racheal Gaude
Contributing Writer

An original blend of color, pattern and texture, communications major Kayla Ryan perfectly demonstrates how to pattern play without fail: pair simple, basic prints with intriguing, more complex prints and keep the colors coordinated.

What's your inspiration for this outfit?
"Since it is colder outside, I decided to pick something that had more dark tonal colors, and I mixed prints because today I felt like being a bit bizarre. Expect the unexpected."

Any on-campus pet peeves that aggravate you fashionably?
"I don't like when people wear waist shorts and a crop top. I feel like if you're going to wear a crop top, it needs to be with something high-waisted. It shouldn't show so, so much skin. Find a happy medium, if you do decide to be a little risqué. To me, showing too much is distasteful— improper—but that's just me."

Do you have any fashion advice?
"Men do not need to wear flip-flops in the winter. Like, ever. Girls should wear shirts that cover their butts if they're going to wear dressy boots and leggings. Please. Please wear shirts that cover your butt."

How does this outfit affect your vibe for the day?
"Well, my vibe for the day is strong, and I feel like I can accomplish anything."

An origin in lights

Savanah Meredith
Staff Writer

It's that time of year again. The time when our beloved city is no longer referred to as Natchitoches, but rather the "City of Lights."

Whether you relate to Buddy the Elf or you're known as the local Grinch, Natchitoches never fails to light up the town in the spirit of Christmas.

Ranked third "Best Holiday Light Show" in the nation by yahoo.com, the Christmas Festival has been Louisiana's premier holiday event for the past 89 years.

Thanks to Max Burgdorf, former superintendent of the utilities for the City of Natchitoches, we now have a tradition as old as the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade. According to Arlene Gould, executive director of the Natchitoches Convention & Visitor's Bureau, Burgdorf came up with the idea in 1927 in hopes of bringing the community together to express their Christmas spirit.

Burgdorf then obtained just enough 10-watt Christmas bulbs to get a "riverbank lighting program" started.

Charles Solomon, also known as "Mr. Christmas Lights," worked with Charles Maggio to build the first 40 or more set pieces to stand on the riverbank, thus the Festival of Lights was born.

However, it didn't stop at lights. Fireworks became a permanent part of this annual festival in the late 1930s, according to the Christmas Festival's official website.

All that was missing was the parade — something that used to conflict with Northwestern football games.

The parades helped "commercialize" this holiday event, thus creating more additions to the annual festival: a theme and its very own beauty contest.

Now, Miss Merry Christmas and the Christmas Belles represent "Joy to the World" — the festival's theme — by riding in the parade alongside invitees of the festival parade committee.

After almost 90 years of tradition, this 6-week-long experience has become more than just a celebration of Christmas cheer; it is now a prominent economic booster to the City of Natchitoches and its residents.

The money each guest spends supports sales tax and hotel occupancy tax collections, making it the busiest season for all retail merchants, restaurants and hotels — hotels being the majority of the Visitor's Bureau's budgeted income.

Sometimes it's hard to believe that such a small town can hold the hundreds of thousands of visitors the festival brings each year.

"Even during weekdays you will see numerous bus loads of visitors from all over the region and from out of state," Gould said. "It is hard to gauge how many people come to see the fireworks each weekend."

Finals Week survival guide

Tips for Finals Week from the Head of the Academic Success Center

Julia Barry
Contributing Writer

'Tis the season for finals projects, study guides and final exams at Northwestern State University. It's the most stressful time of the year for even the best students when you add in Christmas work and school, but it won't be if you start preparing for exams now.

"Sooner is better as far as getting ready for a test," Ashley Briggs, director of the Academic Success Center, said. "Students need to know by next week when their finals are being offered and make a plan as far as work is concerned and also just their own personal schedule."

The exam schedule for Fall 2015 can be found on the Registrar's page of the NSU website. They suggest you plan your work and life schedules around those dates. If you are a graduating senior, your grades are due by Dec. 10 at 11:55 p.m. for the academic calendar, so make sure to schedule due dates for final exams and projects to allow your professors time to grade them.

After you know your exam dates, they encourage students to make a study plan. Plan your studying based on the material that you will be tested on, and look at the notes and materials that you have and the information that you are missing for the exam, then get together with classmates and your professor to make sure that you understand the material.

If notes and class time just aren't cutting it, free tutoring is also an option. The Academic Success Center offers appointment-based tutoring in room 240B of the student union and hosts drop-in tutoring nights in Room 313 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays every week.

Tuesdays are for chemistry, Wednesdays are for English and writing, and Thursdays are for math and physics. The tutoring offices are open from 8 a.m.- 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8 a.m.- 9 p.m. on Fridays. If you would like to schedule a tutoring session, visit nsula.edu/academic-success-center/ and click on the link that says "Request Tutoring" to allow the center to contact you to schedule a tutoring session.

Starting Dec. 6, the library will offer two study areas in the Stacks on the second floor of the library and the reference center on the first floor. The computer lab will also stay open later, but it will close at 1:30 a.m. the 2 a.m (which time?). The Academic Success Center will also be offering a large drop-in math tutoring night in the library on Dec. 10 to allow students to ask questions to prepare for exams.

If you need a study space for yourself or a study group, there are also six public rooms available to students on the second floor of Watson Library: three by the elevators, and three in the Stacks.

Student Government Association will also be hosting a Finals Breakfast in the student union from 9 p.m. to midnight, available to students with a current student ID. SGA will also have scantron giveaways at the event. Watson Library will also give away scantrons with current student ID's. Students are limited to receiving two scantrons per day.

Watson Library Extended Hours

Dec. 6	2 p.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 7	7:30 a.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 10	7:30 a.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 11	7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Dec. 12	10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Dec. 13	2 p.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 14	7:30 a.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 15	7:30 a.m.-2 a.m.
Dec. 16	7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Dec. 17	7:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
Dec. 18	7:30 a.m.-noon

NS'U' Voice

If given the opporunity, how would you spend grant money given to your school?



Senior, Psychology Major

"More tutoring opportunities for the student body."



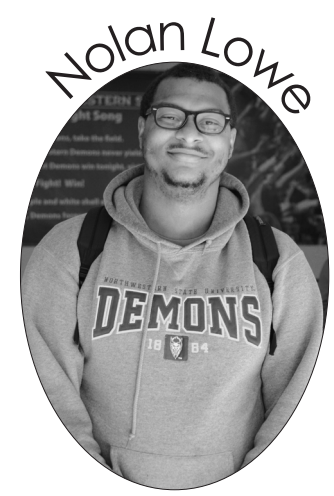
Junior, Nursing Major

"I attend the Alexandria campus, and we only have nine computers to share with one another. I would definitely use grant money to provide more computers."



Sophomore, Biology Major

"I'd definitely use the money to buy more equipment for the biology labs."



Senior, Bio Education Major

"I would add cheaper housing on campus for students to have a variety of affordable options."

'We are not your personal diary': How to stop embarrassing yourself and be a hero

Ashley Wolf
Staff Writer

The Facebook rant is a close cousin to the drunk-uncle political tirade during family gatherings: both are ill-timed, ill-placed and trainwrecks that cause everyone to cringe.

Facebook is home to many stupid behaviors, like people who post every stupid detail from every moment of their day and the people who make obvious and irrelevant statements like "I hate waking up early" or "I am so hungry right now." But what astounds me the most is the people who use Facebook to complain to an audience.

What these people don't realize is that their audience doesn't care. Unless you are a celebrity, your complaints are irrelevant. It's just another rant that doesn't change anything.

If you really want to make the world a better place, stop complaining and forcing everybody to hear it. We are not your personal diary.

There are more effective ways to change the world. In fact, you could be a hero. If you stop ranting and try any of these five things, you are practically Gandhi in my eyes.

Five actions more effective than any Facebook post that will make you a hero in real life:

1. Somehow silence the kid having a tantrum in the middle of the grocery store.
2. Replace the toilet paper roll.
3. Don't flake out when you make plans.
4. Expose and publicy shame people who cut in line.
5. Untangle someone's headphones.

If you stop the cringe-inducing rants and do any of these five things, you are a hero and I commend you.

look us up

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Out of the tower and into reality

Professors should listen to students' requests for "safe spaces"

Airrol Angelle
Contributing Writer

There are many professors complaining on social media (and wasting their own and our time in the classroom) about safe spaces by claiming "college isn't a daycare" and "students are just being babies." Forgive them for their ignorance on the subject; they're scared to learn anything new.

They are under the old impression that "safe space" means everyone's physical safety is preserved – to which they automatically answer "WELL I'M NOT BEING PHYSICALLY THREATENED SO NO ONE ELSE IS BEING PHYSICALLY THREATENED."

Sometimes "intelligent" people forget that their ivory-tower opinions and observations do not carry as much weight as the lived-experiences of others. For example, we would all laugh at someone if they said something like, "I'm not poor, so no one else is poor." It's the same way of thinking – only we absolutely know better about the falsity of the latter statement.

Poverty has so much more visibility than on-campus violence… which probably has something to do with administrators covering up on-campus violence to "protect" their students. Full circle, am I right?

Another manipulation that these professors are aligning themselves with is the exaggerated idea that students will "stop learning" in colleges if they are made into safe spaces. This impression stems from propaganda that claims the definition of "safe space" is a space void of opposing thought.

In my opinion, professors love that definition with all their hearts because it is more relatable to them. They feel safest teaching when there are no opposing thoughts to their lessons. As someone who thinks for themselves and questions authority constantly, I speak my mind in class; I've seen, first hand, the confidence levels of professors plummet as soon as evidence against their morals are submitted into public discussion.

It is up to us to overcome the egos of the elite. As students, we can start by reminding our professors that, right now, students are ASKING for the chance to create a safe space. This means no one knows what the terms and conditions of their individual school's safe spaces are, yet.

That's right professors. The big scary safe space you're feeling so threatened by is going to be a compromise between yourself and your students. They'll bring in their calls to action, and you'll hopefully be prepared with your own. BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN you come with your list and ignore the demands of the students.

If we create safe spaces classroom by classroom, eventually the concept of safe space will become perfected. Only then will we be able to have a campus-wide safe space agreed upon by everyone.

Here's something to take into consideration – one of your demands can be "no derailing." Think: a discussion class where students aren't trying to get off topic and professors aren't trying to be anecdotal, beautiful. This contributes to the conditions of a safe space.

Being politically correct is academically progressive. You literally have to educate yourself and continue educating yourself to be PC. You have to become aware of others and open your mind and think for yourself and etc. Why are people being duped into believing these are bad things?

Safe spaces foster critical thinking! They allow for opposing thoughts to come together without fear of being PERSONALLY attacked for opinions (i.e. being shut down for what you're saying by someone with no evidence screaming, "You're crazy!", which is an ableist slur). If someone isn't afraid of being personally offended for having a thought outside the box, discussions have the opportunity to actually progress.

If you want to teach in an evolved classroom, then let go of the propaganda and give safe space a chance. Students who want school to be a safe space are not trying to harm academia; they are trying to improve it.

How silly does it make you feel to realize that before reading this you were tricked into thinking PEOPLE VOLUNTARILY GOING TO SCHOOL were somehow trying to destroy the system?

What I think professors are threatened by is their own hubris. Some "intelligent" people are not so smart, and they feel strongly about being exposed. They may have succeeded in the world of academia by using tactics different from those used in safe spaces.

At this point, they have no idea how to debate with others in a safe space, and they are covetous of those who do. What is the usual immature response to being jealous of someone else's abilities? RIDICULE.

In conclusion, think about what this will mean for the problem-solving skills of graduates. Future leaders will understand how to enter a room to converse EFFECTIVELY about world problems and reach REAL solutions.

Why do we dream of a 'White Christmas'?

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

El Niño is the thief that stole what little potential Louisiana had for a "White Christmas" this year, and traditionally snowy cities' chances of snow have been cut in half.

That makes this the strongest El Niño in 18 years and one of only five since 1950.

Although this year will be especially lacking in white, less than 30 percent of the United States is regularly predicted to celebrate the holiday under a blanket of white snow.

In order to garner the official meteorological declaration of a "white" Christmas, at least 1 inch of snow must be on the ground, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association. That is sorry news for those who only receive a light dusting on Christmas Day and depressing news for those who never experience the fluffy white flurries, especially in light of El Niño.

Jesse Ferrell, a blogger for the AccuWeather website, said the reason most people "idealize" the White Christmas is partially due to the famous songs heard on the radio. The time period most were made was during a climatic event called a "Little Ice Age."

Earth has endured several Little Ice Ages in its past in which temperatures ran below the global average for long periods of time. The time most snowy Christmases were referred to in song was during the 1850-1930 time period in which having a pre-holiday snow was quite common. Given, the song White Christmas, was created in 1942 but the lyrics say they were "dreaming" about the ones in the past, either during early childhood or during their grandparents' time.

In response to those who might be saddened by this dilemma, I suggest we slush-off the "White Christmas" ideal. There's nothing wrong with a "Green" Christmas. In fact, the color serves as one of the festive triad that represent the holiday, symbolizing luck and longevity. It is prominently found through the use of various foliage including mistletoe, wreaths and Evergreens like Holly and Ivy.

The Christmas holiday isn't meant for Jack Frost, Frosty the Snowman and snowball fights. It is meant for reverence and rejoicing among those celebrating whether you're a Christian or festive holiday enjoyer. So, there is no need to let those measly white flakes that fall from the sky get you down. Have fun with whatever the weather happens to throw your way: rain, sun, snow, fog or sleet.

And to all Louisianans, I wish this to you: "May your days be merry and clean; and may all your Christmases be Green!"

Reduced snow chances in cities around the country

Boston	21%
Pittsburgh	30%
Chicago	42%
Cleveland	45%
Detroit	46%
Milwaukee	48%

WBB looking for rematch against Baylor

Sports Information Directory

The Northwestern State women's basketball team opened the second day of the Hotel Encanto Thanksgiving Classic with plenty of energy and offensive efficiency.

In the second half of Saturday's game against Long Beach State, however, both of those tangible and intangible assets dissipated.

The 49ers erased an 18-point second-half NSU lead and grabbed a 60-59 victory on the strength of a Madison Montgomery layup with 10 seconds left in the game.

"Our energy and effort in the first half was very, very good," said fourth-year co-head coach Brooke Stoehr, whose team built a 13-point lead at halftime.

"(In the third quarter) we fouled too much and allowed them to get back in the game. When you give someone free throws and layups, it gives them confidence."

Long Beach State (4-2) built on that confidence over the final 20 minutes. Each time, Northwestern State (3-4) looked like it may have put away the 49ers, Long Beach State answered.

After NSU took a 57-48 lead on a Beatrice Attura jumper with 4:20 to play, the 49ers responded by scoring 12 of the game's final 14 points and holding NSU without a field goal in the final 4:20.

An NSU turnover with 30 seconds left led to Montgomery's game-winning layup as Northwestern State got off two shots in the final 10 seconds but could not get either to go down.

Northwestern State led by 18 with 8:19 to play in the third quarter when Attura (game-high 21 points) connected on a 3-pointer. All told, NSU led for more than 34 minutes of the game, which was tied for three minutes.

"I thought we had really put the hammer on them early in the second half," Stoehr said "We didn't finish. This is a great learning experience. I can assure you, those turnovers at the end of the game won't happen again."

Janelle Perez joined Attura in double figures with 16 points, moving her into 19th place on Northwestern State's career scoring list. With 34 points in the last two games, Perez now has 1,249 career points, one more than Diane Pittman.

Shahd Abboud turned in NSU's first double-figure rebounding game of the year, grabbing 10 rebounds. NSU did not have an individual record a double-figure rebounding game until the 27th game of the 2014-15 season.

Montgomery finished with 14 points and was one of three 49ers to reach double figures. Raven Benton (12 points) and Jewelyn Sawyer (11 points, 10 rebounds) also notched double-figure scoring days for Long Beach State.

Despite dropping both games at the Thanksgiving Classic, Stoehr saw some positives that came from the trip.

"These games will be very, very good for us," she said. "Today felt like a conference game, and we need those experiences before we get to January."

Northwestern State returns to action Friday, Dec. 4, when they travel to Waco, Texas, to face No. 4 Baylor in a rematch of last season's 2015 NCAA Tournament matchup where they suffered a 36-77 loss. Tipoff is set for 7 p.m. from the Ferrell Center.



Demons guard Beatrice Atture went up for a layup. She led the team with 21 points. *Photo Gary Hardamon*

Demons get recognized for play

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

Despite the rough start for the Demons, they managed to land six Demons on the 2015 All-Southland Conference football team.

The list was led by record-shattering, All-American receiver and returner Ed Eagan, who was the first-team choice at receiver, all-purpose back and kickoff return specialist. Eagan holds 10 NSU records, including career receptions, career receiving yardage and career all-purpose and kick return yards.

The other first-team selection was kicker Chris Moore, who set NSU's career-scoring record as he finished with 248 points. He broke the career field goals made mark and finished with 45 while hitting 16 of 19 field goals during his senior season.

Senior offensive tackle Pace Murphy was a second-team pick. Senior linebacker Jacob Merriman, junior offensive guard Terrance Boyd Jr. and junior running back De'Mard Llorens were honorable mention choices.

Murphy led the Demon offensive line with an average grade of 84 percent while leading the offensive line in grades for seven times this season.

Byrd was the second-highest graded offensive lineman at 80 percent, as he led the offensive line in grades twice throughout the season.

Merriman was fourth among all Southland players in tackles in conference play, averaging 10.2 per game in nine contests. He was the leading tackler for the Demons as he ended with 93 total tackles, 4.5 tackles for loss, 2.5 sacks and one forced fumble.

Llorens tied for second in the conference with 11 rushing touchdowns as he posted 820 yards on 173 carries. His four rushing TDs at Nicholls tied a Demons' single-game record which was shared by a multitude of all-time Demon greats.

In belief that his college playing days were over, Demons senior quarterback Stephen Rivers received a formal invitation to play in the National Football League Players Association (NFLPA) Collegiate Bowl, which is a post-season all-star game for draft eligible college players.

Rivers finished his last season at NSU throwing for 1,394 yards on 108-for-166 passing with nine touchdowns and five interceptions in nine games. He ranked 11th nationally in completion percentage (65.1 percent) and 17th nationally in passing efficiency (147.5). His 8.4 yards per pass attempt checked in at No. 15 in the FCS.

Find complete story online at currentsaucenews.com



Senior Rivers is set to compete in the NFLPA Collegiate Bowl, which will be played Jan. 23. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Purple vs. White:
Track team hosts Inner-Squad track meet

Brian Cook
Sports Editor

NSU track team split into two, as they held their Annual Purple vs. White Inner-Squad Track meet. Former head coach Leon Johnson was present as he helped start some of the races.

The runners competed in the 60-meter, 150-meter and 300-meter races. There were 4 x 100-meter and 4 x 300-meter relays. For long distance, they competed in 800-meters, 1,500-meters and 3,000-meters.

For field events, they competed in the long jump, triple jump, high jump, javelin, shot put, discus and the hammer throw.

The Purple team, composed of Marquise Foster, Kaymin Carter, Anthony Taylor and Micah Larkins, captured the 4 x 100-meter win while the White team, Amir James, Gabriel White, Ty Shilling and Charlie, won the 4 x 300-meter race.

For the women's, Jacqueline Rushford won the 1,500 and 3,000 meter race. Erin Wrozek won the 800-meter race. Jameka McBride won the 60 and 150-meter race while De'Shalyn Jones won the 300-meter race. Ashley Aldredge won the women's javelin and Rachelle Bessard won the hammer throw. Por'sha Thomas won both the long and triple jump.

On the men's side, James won the 60, 150 and 300-meter races. Josh Wilkins took wins for the 1,500 and 3,000-meter race and Hunter Wamack won the 800-meter race. Emmanuel Williams won the long jump, Aaron Williams won the triple jump and Quinton Helaire won the high jump. Cedric Paul took home the wins for the shot put, hammer throw and discus and Shilling won the javelin.

Runners White, James and Taylor each recorded record times at 33 seconds for their 300-meter race.



NSU Men's and Women's track team. *Photo submitted by Gabriel White*



From top: Kaymin Carter, Deylon Key, Anthony Taylor, LeVert James , Marquise Foster, Ty Shilling, Amir James, Gabriel White, Christian Willis, Micah Larkins and Josh Wilkins.
Photo submitted by Gabriel White



Students talk Webb

Continued from front

Senior general studies major Mark Poirrier said this moment happened for him as a freshman when Webb stopped him on the sidewalk to talk with him out of the blue.

"I don't really remember what we talked about, but at the end of the conversation he had told me that it was a pleasure to meet me… and that this was a thing he does because he didn't want the first time he shook your hand to be when you walked across the stage at graduation," Poirrier said. "I always thought that was cool."

He even took the time to update parents on the progress of their children at college, as in the case of alumna Ruth Fruge, who said Webb was determined to recruit her and made sure he kept up with her progress throughout her time at NSU.

"If my picture and my name was in the paper he would have them cut it out and laminate it and mail it to my parents that way they'd always have the articles whenever I was up here in Natchitoches," Fruge said. "He'd even send me notes about it."

Fruge laughed as she recalled how every time he saw her he would try to remember the name of a girl he dated from his home town, getting a chuckle out of his wife Brenda every time. With characteristic humor and genuine concern, he connected with those he encountered, even in their lowest moments.

Director of Student Activities Yonna Pasch experienced Webb's friendship during the low point in her life: during her battle with breast cancer. His wife Brenda is a breast cancer survivor, so they knew her struggle firsthand.

"She and Dr. Webb came specifically to me and were praying with me and providing whatever for me while I was receiving treatment and really just made that personal connection when they didn't have to," Pasch said, recalling the times the Webb family helped them with gas money for hospital trips and the many times they checked on her even after her treatment was over.

She said for Webb it wasn't "you as an employee or you as a student. No, it was Yonna from Pine Prairie." He saw people for what they were: complex beings full of potential.

Freshman Madison Milligan regretted that she didn't get to spend her college career with the man who functioned like a second grandfather to her. Her grandfather Robert Crew worked side-by-side with Webb as his assistant for all 18-years, retiring alongside him because he couldn't continue without his best friend.

"Meeting somebody for the first time, most people wouldn't expect them to remember your name, but Dr. Webb always knew everybody, and he was always so sweet... such a hugger," Milligan said. "Dr. Webb will always have a special place in my heart."

One time she came to a recruitment reception and Webb brought her over to Dr. James Henderson, who would soon fill his place.

"He told him to take care of his girl, because he wasn't going to be there to watch me and check on me anymore, and that was so special because he cared so much about me even though I wasn't like his true family," Milligan said. "He changed my life."

In many circles, Dr. Webb will be hailed for his numerous academic success and historical precedents, and rightly so. But to those who knew him, however briefly, his ability to reach people and love them wherever they were was his greatest success, his most meaningful legacy. Although his presence here will be greatly missed, his impact will never cease to be felt.

"When my mom and I walked up to introduce ourselves, I told him my name. He immediately knew who I was, where I was from and what I was studying...Whenever I'd see him, he would ask about Scholars' and choir. It was nice to know I had a president who cared enough to know me and who I am."
- **Deanna Bourgeois**, *senior Scholars' student*

"It was very nice, his taking time out to talk to a student he didn't know and take an interest in what my plans were, even printing out my transcript to go over and making suggestions.**"**- **Annie Desoto**, *alumna*

"He once personally paid for me and my sister to go to a football game my freshman year of high school.**"**
Dean Mayeux, *freshman music education major*

"He always took time to write a thank you note, whether it was through email or handwritten for projects we would work on together.**"**
- **Beth Mann**, *director of NSU Publications*

"If I sent him information, he would always email me back and tell me thank you for this… he was always very positive.**"**
- **Lori Leblanc**, *deputy Title IX coordinator*

"When I found out he passed, I went and searched for my [freshman convocation pin] wherever I could find it.**"**
-Sadie Viga, *senior double major in accounting and business administration*

"He loved to sit with a student and talk about what they were going to do, what they wanted to be when they grew up.**"**
– **Francis Conine**, *Dean of Students*

"He knew everybody. He made every single person feel welcome, and he always called you by your name. You could tell it wasn't fake. He wasn't just trying to remember you. He knew who you were.**"**
– **Melanie McBride**, alumna and assistant director of NSU recruiting

"Our Latin class learned Christmas carols in Latin, and we went to sing them for him. I love that I go to a school where we had a president who liked to have fun with students like that."
-**Katie Acosta**, *liberal arts major*



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Obama goes to Baton Rouge Page 2



Nick Cave brings sound suits to NSU Campus Page 4



NSU hosts revamped graduation ceremony Page 12



THE CURRENTSAUCE



Maglieaux's bar received less traffic than normal during the Christmas parade. Above is a photo of the restaurant on a slow day during opening hours. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Tensions affect business at 2015 Christmas Festival

Karla Ewing
Opinions Editor

Natchitoches has held its beloved Christmas Festival each year since Max Burgdof strung the first Christmas lights along Front Street in 1926. Unfortunately, due to several events that affected the community, the attendance may have been negatively affected this year.

The Natchitoches Christmas Festival, commonly referred to by locals as Christmas Fest, included over 300,000 Christmas lights and over 100 set pieces lining the Riverbank. It began with the Turn on the Holidays Celebration and fireworks display on Nov. 22. After the lights are turned on, the festival continues until after the new year with a fireworks display each Saturday.

Usually the busiest weekend is that of the annual Natchitoches Christmas Festival Parade. However, this year attendance was seemingly less than expected. Turmoil was in the air due to Mayor Lee Posey's ban on the use of the Confederate flag.

Many people were upset, feeling denied of their heritage and history. Lee Waskom, head of the Christmas Festival Committee, explained that the symbol they wish to fly does not embody the entire community and that the festival is about the community as a whole.

"The parade needs to represent the community more completely," Waskom said. A suicide on campus also impacted the Natchitoches community. The night before parade day there was also a bomb threat on campus.

Many felt uneasy about going to the festival in light of these events. Rumors arose that there would be a sort of uprising. Security was increased, which also created nervousness among those planning to go.

Large events, such as Christmas Festival, are ideal locations for lawlessness and this created a state of fear among potential attendees. Along with the fiery gossip, tragic events and suspicious security increase, some students felt uneasy about attending the festival.

Senior Morgan Byrd, hospitality management and tourism and liberal Arts major, worked the Holiday Trail of Lights as a communications intern. Byrd worked closely promoting the Christmas events in Natchitoches, along with other cities on the trail.

Continued on page 3

McMickens crowned

Jacob Farnsley
Staff Writer

On Friday, Northwestern State University put on its annual beauty pageant, and another Phi Mu sister proudly took home the title of Miss LOB: Marissa McMickens.

Miss Louisiana 2015, April Nelson, announced for the evening, and Student Activities Board director Yonna Pasch sponsored this year's event.

After a one-on-one question session, a talent showcase, a swimsuit look and an evening gown look, McMickens was crowned.

"It still hasn't hit me that I'm Miss Northwestern's Lady of the Bracelet 2016," McMickens said.

McMickens has competed in LOB for the past three years and has gotten first runner up every year, before her final competition in 2016. She said that this is the best birthday present she has ever received, seeing as her 21st birthday is on Monday.

Five of the past six winners have been members of Phi Mu fraternity, including McMickens. According to her, this trend reveals "the confidence Phi Mu girls carry."

"Phi Mu has a lot to offer, and we work hard for what we want," McMickens explained. This year, four girls from Phi Mu competed against each other: McMickens, Lincoln Pearce, Faith Stanfield and Kayla Richards.

"It was amazing to have them up there with me," McMickens said. "Kayla is new to Phi Mu, so I wouldn't have been able to meet her in the way I did without this competition. Lincoln and Faith are actually my pledge sisters, so I knew they were there to support me, and I actually had 11 sisters on stage with me that day to support me."

McMickens will represent Northwestern for 2016; this qualifies as a preliminary for Miss Louisiana, which is a preliminary for Miss America. McMickens is extremely grateful and ready to move on to Miss Louisiana this year.

McMickens was not the only winner on Friday night. The talent portion of the pageant was won by Chelsey Goldsmith, who performed a comedic monologue displaying her acting talents.

"Winning is such a blessing," Goldsmith said. She affirmed that she loves to be able to share her passion with others and make them smile.

The swimsuit portion was won by Faith Stanfield.

"It was an empowering experience, walking across that stage in my swimsuit, which inspired courage and allowed me to express myself," Stanfield said.

Miss Congeniality, the contestant who is voted most friendly by the other contestants, was won by Ragan Aple.

"I feel honored, and I was so happy that the girls saw me as a friend who deserved the award," Aple said.



Photo by Alec Horton

President Obama visits Baton Rouge high school

Meg Denny
News Editor



President Obama conducts town hall meeting at McKinley High School. *Photo by Meg Denny*

Over 1,000 people packed into McKinley High School's gymnasium Thursday, Jan. 14, to participate in a town hall meeting conducted by President Barack Obama. In his first visit to Baton Rouge, the president made a historical decision to visit a community with a consistent past of minority support.

Che'dra Joseph, McKinley Student of the Year, introduced the president and spoke of the school's record. "In 1907 McKinley became the first institution in Louisiana to offer black students academic advancement; furthermore, its first graduation class of 1916 were all females," Joseph said. "McKinley was a wing for black excellence, and a wing for women."

She went on to explain her own journey to the president's podium. Joseph expressed pride in her school's history, and explained her wishes to carry on the legacy.

"I'm here in spite of, not because of, my circumstances. I have defied the statistics, and I will not falter in my aspirations to dismantle the glass ceilings imposed on women, people of color, and minorities."

Joseph thanked President Obama for providing America a "nontraditional model of success that proves adversity does not restrict opportunity," and expressed gratitude for his visit.

When she finished her speech, President Obama walked onto the stage and thanked Joseph for the introduction, calling her by her nickname "Che."

Obama began his talk by acknowledging the local government officials in the audience. Governor John Bel Edwards, Mayor of Baton Rouge Kip Holden, Mayor of New Orleans Mitch Landrieu and Congressman Cedric Richmond all attended the event.

Offering his support to Edwards, Obama praised the accomplishments of the governor after just three days of office. "He's already delivering for the people of Louisiana," the president commented. Applause rang through the crowd for Edwards' work.

"This week, he took the bold and wise step to expand Medicaid to cover hundreds of thousands of hardworking Louisianans, providing them with the financial security of health care. It was the right thing to do."

The president spoke for only a few minutes about the biggest concerns he has for America. Mostly, he recapped his final State of the Union address.

After listing out his major points, the president began to take questions. "I want to spend a little time having a conversation with all of you," he insisted. The question and answer session covered many topics including business, criminal justice reform, Michelle Obama's favorite TV show (HGTV) and the race to cure cancer.

One Louisiana State University student majoring in coastal environmental science asked Obama to name the environmental issue that impacts him the most. The president immediately answered with climate change.

He spoke for a moment about the worldwide effects of climate change, and then, like his comments in his State of the Union address, he expressed disappointment in those who refuse to acknowledge this urgent issue.

Additionally, the president recognized the effect climate change has on Louisiana locally. "If you live in Louisiana, you should especially be concerned about this because you are right next to some water that has a tendency to heat up, and that then creates hurricanes," the president said.

When the final question came, the president called on Anthony King, a mass communications major at Southern University. King asked the president to talk about Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

"Most times, when I go recruit off of high schools, most of the time a lot of them say, oh, I don't want to go to an HBCU college; I feel like if I go to an HBCU, I won't get as many opportunities as a student at university as LSU or Tulane," King explained. He asked Obama to give advice to students at HBCUs looking to fulfill leadership roles after during and college.

President Obama commemorated the traditions of HBCUs. "The role of the historically black colleges and universities in producing our leadership and expanding opportunity -- training doctors and teachers and lawyers and ministers who change the landscape of America -- I hope most people know that story, and if not, you better learn it. Because it has been powerful and continues to be a powerful tradition," he said.

President Obama finished the town hall meeting with these words: " Our system of government only works when you are involved not just by voting, but by being informed and staying involved throughout the process.... If you want to see change, you've got to help make it happen."

In a somewhat awkward goodbye to the Baton Rouge community, he walked off the stage to shake hands after a thanking the wrong city "Thank you, New Orleans. God bless America."

Frank words delivered in final State of the Union address

Jacob Hicks
A&E Editor

On Jan. 12, President Barack Obama gave his last State of the Union address in the Capital Building. This speech contrasted to previous given, because of its finality. He had no fear of the public backlash on any of his topics; he could make riskier jokes and offer honest commentary.

The president promised to make this address a short one so they could "all get back to Iowa" to continue their campaigning for the upcoming caucus. This received huge applause and laughter.

Obama addressed the four biggest questions that we face as Americans.

With the first question, Obama started off with facts. The top 3 percent of the richest Americans hold half of the nation's wealth. He deemed this unacceptable. "This offends the image of a fair shot in America," the president explained.

He also showed that from when he came into office eight years ago, the high school graduation rate increased from 72 percent to 85 percent. "We've made progress, but we need to make more. We have to make college affordable for every America," the president remarked.

To answer his second question, Obama simply stated that we needed clean energy sources. "Sixty years ago, when the Russians beat us into space, we didn't deny Sputnik was up there. We didn't argue about the science," Obama said.

The president presented more research, saying wind power tripled in the past few years, solar energy employs more people across the United States than the coal industry does. He joked saying, "Two bucks a gallon ain't bad either!"

The President directed his third question mainly toward the growing threats in the Middle East with ISIS. The US leads 65 partners and countries in an effort to stop ISIS. He criticized Congress for failing to pass military force against them for close to a year.

The four biggest questions Americans face:

- How do we give everyone a fair shot in America?
- How do we make technology work for us, not against us?
- How do we make America safe again?
- How do we make politics reflect the best of us?

Businesses at Christmas Fest

Continued from front

Byrd explained that the lowered attendance allowed her to have a more enjoyable time, and the city experienced an sales increase.

"Yeah, attendance was down this year, but I still had a lot of fun," she said, and she applauded Mayor Posey for standing by his decision.

Concerning the festivities, NSU President Dr. Jim Henderson stated that the festival was "enthusiastic and fun to interact with from the float Tonia and I shared."

During the parade, Henderson and his wife lead the parade on a shared float with Mr. NSU Matthew Whitaker, Ms. NSU Brittany McConathy, Mayor and Mrs. Posey, Parish President and Mrs. Nowlin.

He noted that the crowd did not seem smaller, and he commented on the success of this year's Gala.

"The amazing talent of CAPA students, faculty, and staff certainly wowed the audience members I spoke with," he said.

Nearly each home performance was sold out, and around 2500 seats were filled at The Strand in Shreveport.

"No doubt that the flag issue did have an impact," Waskom said. He noted that local attendance was down about 20 percent. The total of advanced armband sales dropped from $3900 last year to $3100 this year.

Waskom uses advanced armband sales to judge how many locals attend the festival each year since most buy armbands early to get a special price. Visitor attendance was normal and sales of green armbands on the Riverbank increased since last year about 2-3 percent.

Overall Waskom stated that it was a great festival and weather always affects attendance. There was an increased amount of security and no incidents.

The parade "was one of the best parades we've ever put on," Waskom said. Overall success may be measured by the budgets being met and increased revenue.

Dr. Ron McBride acted as chair of Booths and Armbands this year. He noted they had excellent sales during the three paid weekends.

"It was one of our best years for sales attributed to the excellent weather," he said. Referring to the difference in attendance, he said, "It may have been attributed to the threat of potential problems because the Sons of Confederates Soldiers boycotted the parade and festival. The parade numbers were visibly lower, but attendance after the parade was excellent."



Pub-goers enjoy a drink during the Christmas Fest season. While some locals claim that the Confederate Flag controversy greatly hurt business, others have seen a boom in revenue. *Photo by Stephen Sheerin*

Student artist, working manager voices thoughts on Christmas Fest

Karla Ewing
Opinions Editor

Morgan Lasyone is a student, artist, server and working manager of the Pioneer Pub. She is a Northwestern student, studying hospitality management and tourism with a minor in French. This past Christmas season was her sixth Christmas Festival as a server on Front Street.

Of this past festival, Lasyone stated, "The spirit of Christmas did not exist in Natchitoches this year, and it affected servers' pockets severely, all this because of the Confederate Flag."

She said that this year, she brought home a lot less money after working Christmas Fest.

"Each Christmas Fest Day, alone, I am used to bringing in $500-$800," she said. "This year, I brought in $300, which I am grateful for."

Lasyone noted a decrease in business on the day of the parade and an increase of police officers; she blames it on the Confederate Flag controversy.

"I witnessed more police officers walking the streets in the Historic District than I did tourists," Lasyone said. "And each time that a tourist pulled out his or her confederate flag to wave around so proudly, I then witnessed other tourists not coming into the restaurants."

Lasyone also stated that some would even shake their heads at the waving of the flags with a look of disgust.

Lasyone is a descendant of a Confederate soldier, Smith Clardy. According to Lasyone, Clardy is her fifth great grandfather, and he "fought under the Confederacy at the Battle of Pea Ridge in Arkansas."

She even owns an artificial flag that would have been flown during the Battle of Pea Ridge.

"I am proud to know that my ancestor played a role in a huge part of our American history," she said.

Lasyone acknowledged the Confederate flag as being a part of American history and said that it should not be erased. "I do feel though, that if a piece of history hurts or holds a negative aura over our development as humans, some things should change."



Lasyone, manager of local pub, often makes more money at Christmas Fest. *Photo by Stephen Sheerin*

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Ratings Creep: Are Movies Crossing Rating Boundaries?

Savannah Bassett
Staff Writer



Remember when PG-rated movies had no curse words and the worst thing shown was an innocent kissing scene? Those days seem to be long gone. There has been a significant shift in societal norms from the late eighties until now.

Back then movies meant for children were censored to be appropriate for their viewing while movies meant for older audiences had their own set of guidelines. However, the lines seem to have become blurred within the movie rating system. It is now common to see a PG movie with possible inappropriate language thrown in, a PG movie with suggestive innuendos or a PG-13 movie that contains a gory death scene.

How far censorship should go in films has been a long drawn out controversy. In 1930, the 'Motion Picture Production Code' also known as the Hays Code, was created. Eventually, this rating system was replaced by today's Motion Picture Association of America's (MPAA) rating scale (G, PG, PG-13, R, and NC-17).

The MPAA has separate lists of criteria for each level, which helps dictate where a film may fall on the scale. However, as society changes so does the content allowed to be shown in films. In today's society, the use of drugs, language, talk of sex, etc. has become less taboo and more of a daily norm. Sure, some of the mentioned activities may be slightly censored, but compared to the past, the subjects have become more tolerable.

The biggest rating issues seem to revolve around the latter ratings: PG, PG-13, and R. We have films like "Shrek", which were rated PG when they were chalk full of innuendos and some language. The whole movie walked a very fine line between ratings.

Then you have movies like "The Dark Knight". Many parents wanted to argue that the violence and nihilistic attitude should have been taken into consideration a little more when rating the film. However, both films were based on story lines that appeal to younger audiences, but also were enticing to older individuals.

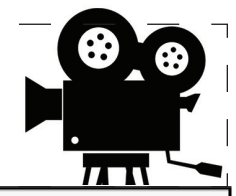
The mixing between appropriate material and borderline inappropriate material is an action that the movie industry thrives on. By adding a variety of humor, actions, attitudes and more, the filmmakers are crafting videos that will draw in not just a single age group. They are molding productions that will appeal to the masses.

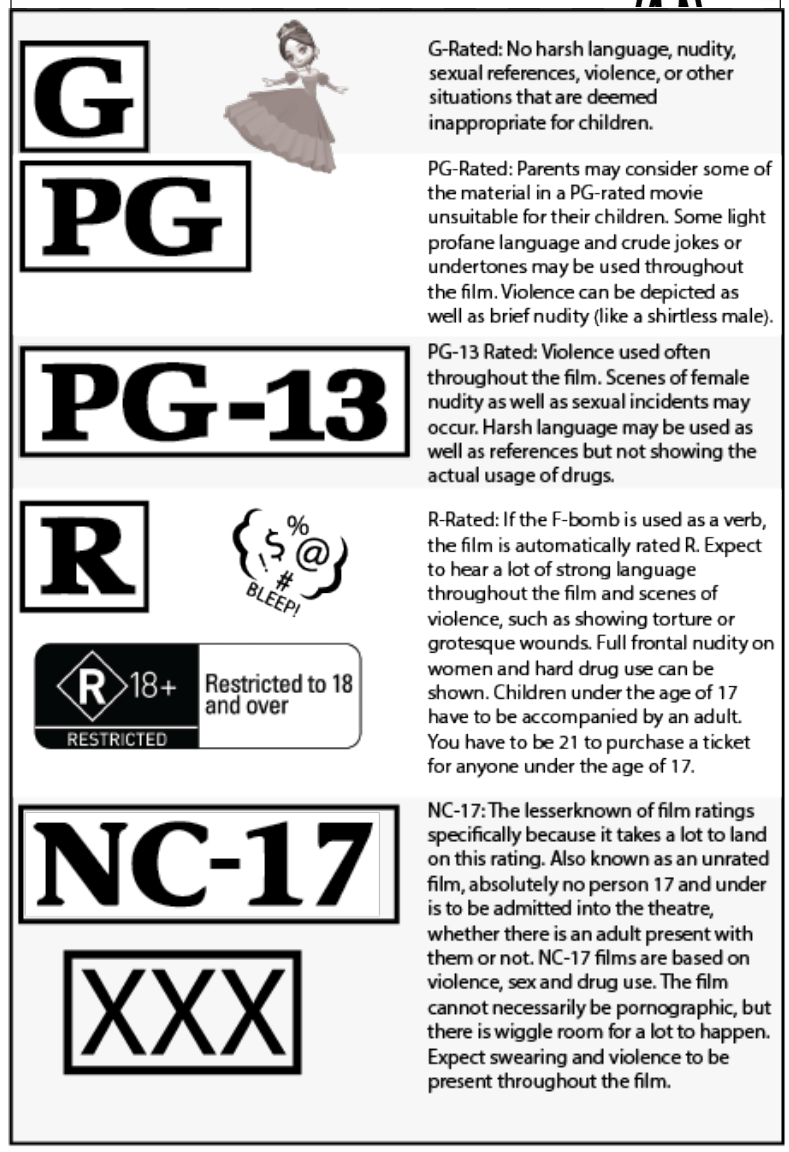
However, that may not make putting inappropriate material in lower ratings morally right. There still could be some more thought put into the decision, but hey, they are more than likely doing it for the sake of the film. No one really knows exactly how lenient the rules will become, but they don't seem to be getting any stricter. So before you bring your younger sibling to see that new PG or PG-13 movie, stop and reflect on what material may be present.

Graphics by Creative Commons

Modern Film Ratings

Hannah Fulton & Kayla Ryan
Staff Members





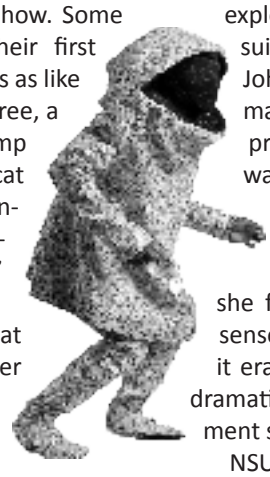
Sound Suits Arrive at NSU Dance

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

Northwestern's Dance Department will participate in a dance production titled "AS IS" envisioned by world-renowned costume artist Nick Cave.

Cave is famously-known for his creation: the sound suits. These suits are designed to direct the attention of the audience away from the appearance of the dancer and toward the message of the production. His suits are displayed at the Smithsonian and featured in the homes of private collectors Beyoncé and Jay Z.

On Jan. 9, Cave visited NSU to see the dancers' first rehearsal and to introduce them to the suits they will wear during the show. Some students described their first impressions of the suits as like a shaggy dog, a palm tree, a very stereotypical pimp jacket, the Cheshire cat from "Alice and Wonderland" and Nicki Minaj as a "Monster Inc." character.



Each suit is so large that dancers need a partner to assist their dress-up. Once the dancer is in the costume, all individual features — including gender and race — are masked under mounts of colorful fur and blankets of synthetic grass.

A few students interacted and explored with the sound suits hands-on. Ebony Johnson, a senior dance major and a fan of Cave's previous works, said it was weird and difficult to wear the costumes at first. However, when she wore the suit, she felt like she retained a sense of "power" even after it erased her form. The suit dramatized each small movement she made.

NSU Assistant Professor of Dance Brett Alan Garfinkel said having "ownership" over their characters and performance is a very beneficial quality of the show, but the exposure to various networking and collaborating opportunities with other artists is what makes "AS IS" so unique for his students.

Cave described NSU's dancers as "amazing" and thinks his show will be a great outlet for them to experiment and explore abstract characters. He is excited to see what they will contribute to the show.

Currently, over 400 people will play some part in the creation of "AS IS." Northwestern represents the only university to take part in the collaborative community project alongside several local artists and service organizations within the Shreveport area.

Cave's loud, colorful costumes will come to life on stage, along with his newly featured eight-month project "Blankets," at the premier Gala performance of "AS IS" in the Shreveport Municipal Auditorium on Sunday, March 20, at 2:30 p.m.

"We are here to not make an impression, but an impact," Cave said. "On the surface it will be bright and fun, but what we want is for our audience to wake up in the morning thinking and reflecting on what they've experienced."

Cave said he wants people to question whether they can accept others just *as is*.

‘You know I’ll be free’: David Bowie passes away but that’s all right

Janell Parfait
Contributing Writer

“Music legend David Bowie passed away peacefully this morning from an 18-month-long battle with cancer, son Duncan Jones confirmed. Bowie is credited for his prolific contribution to music, spanning almost five decades, 27 studio albums and at least three personas. He was 69-years-old.”

I scribbled the above paragraph down for a class exercise last week. As a lead, a blurb, a sentence read around the world. Out of all the headlines my eyes have skimmed through since I’ve begun to read, for once, you have my full attention. And I wish I never heard this news at all. “Take the dead Syrians, Lebanese, Iraqis, Parisians. But not him!”

I was going through an obnoxious classic rock phase as a teenager. It was a life-imitates-art kind of moment, where a research assignment turned into full-blown dedication. And by chance—and YouTube’s algorithms—I finally got to see who this David Bowie character was that everyone kept referencing. It was the “Life on Mars?” music video: the one with a mullet-headed man in an electric blue suit and gaudy eye shadow to match. “This is Bowie?! Dude has no eyebrows!”

Seventeen years of existing, and just then I was finally witnessing this guy. I was too distracted by the ultra-bright made-up face to ignore the visuals, but his voice was clear as day. He was telling a story of a girl who escaped her dismal reality by consuming media, primarily films. But the “saddening bore” of a film from this story hit too close to home for the girl. She’d much rather escape to Mars, hence the title.

That was me, the “girl with the mousy hair.” That was all of us. We were latching onto whatever medium we could find to escape our wretched realities. We were the Major Toms who drifted too far into space, the men who sold the world. And our medium was Bowie, in all forms.

I admit that I’ve always struggled with who and what I want to be. Some days I’d like to not be in this space and time, chewing on grapes in a computer lab on a Tuesday evening, as an NSU student. But if I’ve learned anything through this celebrity grief, it’s that we’re not limited to the present. Bowie changed his style as often as we change our underwear: a gangly teenager armed with his pubescent voice and an acoustic guitar, to become a glam rocker from space, to a sharply dressed but mad aristocrat/fascist, to the goddamn Goblin King.

You are not obligated to dwell on the Now. A man has died, a mortal body has degenerated to nothingness, and the consciousness is lost. But the name, “David Bowie,” the idea this man once existed on Earth and the enormous footprint he left for us all, are just as alive to me as before. It’s all worthwhile.



Photo from Creative Commons

“My brain hurt like a warehouse:
It had no room to spare.
I had to cram so many things to store
Everything in there.
…
I never thought I’d need
So many people.”
“Five Years,” 1972

‘Grace and Frankie’ depicts messy cycle of love in 20th century

Meg Denny
News Editor



Screenshot of show

I chose not to watch the original series “Grace and Frankie” when it appeared on my Netflix dashboard for several reasons. Firstly, I assumed the show’s demographic centered around 60-year-olds and above just breaking into the online streaming scene.

As much as I enjoyed Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda in “9 to 5,” an ‘80s comedy focused on the typical sexist work environment, I thought this new series would carry with it cheap sit-com ploys meant for those who laugh at almost anything.

More importantly, I worried that the plot itself would misrepresent the LGBTQ+ community. “Grace and Frankie” centers around two male law partners (played by Martin Sheen and Sam Waterston) leaving their wives after 40 years of marriage to enter a relationship with each other, a relationship that remained secret for 20 years.

Often, with the typical storyline of “older person comes out of the closet,” the act of coming out is portrayed in a menacing way. The storyline tends to suggest to the audience that coming out at an older age indicates untrustworthiness in the person, and focuses on the hurt caused by these “years of lies.”

However, when I finally watched the comedic show seven months after its release, I saw “Grace and Frankie” handle the delicate situation in a messy, funny and truthful way. The show focuses more on the journey to independence Grace and Frankie must begin after their ex-husbands ask for a divorce, but it also depicts the journey Robert and Sol take together in establishing their new, out, relationship. This show focuses less on the sexuality of each character, and more on the pain of loss.

Each character endures new experiences: the uptight, pride-driven Grace learns how to join an online dating site, the free spirited Frankie goes on a vision quest with her peyote tea, the introverted Robert faces the reality of being out and nice guy Sol tries to watch his favorite show, a spelling bee competition, without his ex-wife.

Grace, Robert, Sol and Frankie maintain frequent interaction with each other, seeing as their lives are all interwoven through history and children. The children are very present in the show, but have weak, unattractive story lines compared to the four main characters.

No one in the series has an easy time overcoming the obstacle of lost love and instability, although for a long time Grace and Frankie suffer more apparently than the two men. The women’s crucial journeys begin in a state of emergency; they are the ones losing the most at a late time in their lives. Often, the women express fears of dying alone, the pains of dating at an older age and the ageist, sexist challenges they face in a society that deems them invisible.

The surprising, special touch to the series is the reality that growth cannot always happen; that people often set themselves and each other back, regardless of their feelings for each other. In the most unique way possible, “Grace and Frankie” creates a visual definition for the all-too-common phrase: love hurts.

“Grace and Frankie” asks its audience to pay attention to the messiness of being human, young and old, in the Twentieth century. Mostly, it asks its audience to love greatly and accept that this act is really never perfect. The show is set to release a second season in May 2016, and I could not be more excited.

Hoverboard charging banned on campus, president still undecided about campus use



The newly popular hoverboards are not allowed to be charged on campus due to many reports of battery malfunction causing fires. *Photo by Morgan Reese*

The ban prohibits on charging the devices in buildings on campus because of the fire hazard. NSU will continue to monitor product safety reports before additional regulations are put in place.

An-gel Samuel
Staff Writer

Continuous reports throughout the student body led to a campus-wide email that banned the act of charging hoverboards on campus due to safety hazards and fire risks.

The student email, sent Jan. 11, titled "University bans hoverboards on campus" stated, "The devices' batteres have been shown to burst into flames especially while being charged, resulting in a metal fire that can burn with intense heat."

Hoverboards were introduced in late 2015 as a "hot holiday trend." Though they are popular, according to cnet.com, they do tend to overheat while charging due to "explosive batteries."

Hoverboards are a two-wheeled motorized self-balancing scooter used for personal transportation that resembles a skateboard. Hoverboards have two pressure-sensitive footpads that control speed and allow users to steer with their feet. They also come with customizable LED lighting, Bluetooth compatibilities and built in speakers, as reported by cnet.com.

"The hoverboard could end up filling the gap between long-distance modes of transport and walking short distances, like the iPad of personal transport," according to qz.com. The website continued, "Or they could end up being the Minidisc of transport, solving a problem that no one really had, but seemed really cool for a while."

Morgan Reese, an NSU studio art major, said her son received a hoverboard from family members, and she agrees with the campus' choice to ban them for fire hazards/risks.

"They are terrifying and dangerous and I wish my family never bought it for my son," Reese said. "They are an expensive way to go to the hospital."

Apparently, the more you pay for them, the safer they tend to be. Reese explained that the $300 dollar ones from China tend to have explosive batteries inside them but the $600 dollar ones are safer and less explosive.

NSU President Dr. Jim Henderson said NSU has not issued an outright ban of the hoverboards but is focused on students not charging the devices in university buildings and residence halls due to the risk of fires. NSU officials will continue to monitor the product safety of the devices.

"While causality is still under investigation, the number of reported instances give us cause to take this step at least until more information is available," Henderson said. "Use of the device in campus buildings will likely never be allowed."

Freshman Jessica Watkins, nursing major, said she also agrees with this ban because while hoverboards may be fun, they are still a safety risk.

According to CBS News, the number of injuries and fires associated with hoverboards has spiked 25 percent in recent days, with 50 reports of injuries and fires associated with the device as of Dec. 10.

The battery itself, according to Overboard.com, is a supercharged battery that charges the device in as little as 16 minutes and delivers over 10 miles in range.

The Hoverboard agency is not issuing a recall of any devices until it determines what is causing them to overheat. CBS News reported that consumers should not charge the device overnight or when away from home.

Senior Zahquan Porter, psychology major, said he does not see the point in having a hoverboard because of the hazards to owners and the people around them.

"Hoverboards aren't safe. If the battery could cause a fire and explode then those things need to be taken off of shelves immediately," Porter stated.

As clarification, as of now the hoverboards themselves are not banned, but charging them on campus is strictly prohibited.

Not just the 'Black-People Sororities/Fraternities'

Bria Williams
Staff Writer

Historically black Greek organizations are noticeably different from other Greek organizations at NSU. Not only are they comprised of mostly black people, they are often seen dancing, stepping or making loud calls into the air.

As a member of a National Pan-Hellenic Sorority, I see people staring in confusion (or it could be amusement), as these Greek men and women move in synchronized steps to upbeat music in the student union, tailgates, or wherever else.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council, or NPHC, is comprised of nine Historically Black Sororities and Fraternities: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority and Iota Phi Theta Fraternity.

The NPHC is sometimes referred to as "The Divine Nine." During historic times of social injustice and inequality, these organizations emerged—separately—to meet a need in the community. These organizations were created for people who wanted a place to connect during a time when they felt they did not belong, and they are founded on statutes of service, academic excellence and sisterhood/brotherhood, among other things.

The act of strolling, stepping and calls have been integrated into the world of black Greek life and have become an historical trademark of the NPHC in particular. Every organization has its own style: special colors, personalized hand symbols, and — of course — a distinguished call.

At Northwestern State University, only four organizations that make up the NPHC are active on campus: Alpha Phi Alpha, Alpha Kappa Alpha, Delta Sigma Theta and Zeta Phi Beta.

"We are all individual organizations, but at the end of the day, we all come together," says Angel Greer, member of Zeta Phi Beta and NPHC President. "We are going down the same path, but have different journeys."

Greer has taken note of claims that members of the NPHC are "standoffish" and "only want to accept black people," but she firmly denounced those claims.

"Although all of these organizations are historically black fraternities and sororities, they are not exclusively black," Greer notes. "We have integrated, and we hope to become more integrated as time goes on with expectations that our history will be preserved and culture will still be alive." She urges anyone who is interested to learn more about the NPHC and hopefully join.

Unlike College Panhellenic Council or Interfraternity Council, interested individuals cannot attend a bid day or participate in Rush Week in hopes of joining an NPHC fraternity or sorority. Discretion is highly advised when it comes to expressing interest in a particular organization.

Professing your love for a certain sorority on Twitter or telling everyone on campus you plan to be part of a specific fraternity is not looked upon favorably in the NPHC community. Your best bet to find information or have any questions answered is to attend the All Greek Informational hosted by the NPHC, held on Jan. 20 at 6 p.m. in the student union lobby.

‘Together, we can eliminate the stigma’

Counselors commence three-year battle against mental illness stigma

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

“Man Up,” “It’s probably just your period,” “You don’t need medicine; it’s not natural” – people get this all the time.

They’re told to stay cool, keep distracted, and - whatever they do - to never admit that they struggle mentally or emotionally.

Counselor Rebecca Boone, director at Counseling and Career Services on campus, said although the stigma has become less severe, people still let embarrassment and a fear of showing “weakness” keep them from seeking counseling.

“Seeking help for a mental issue is no different from going to the doctor... it’s physical,” Boone said.

In response to this, the counseling center on the third floor of the union is starting an anti-stigma campaign over the next three years to combat this view of mental illness, Boone said. They'll do this with funding from a suicide-prevention grant they were recently awarded.

She said they will also have QPR training – which stands for questioning, persuading and referring – to help students recognize signs of suicide and learn how to effectively help those contemplating self-harm.

Funding started Oct. 1, but Boone said the program is still being implemented. She said that it was a tragic irony that the suicide in University Place 2 happened on campus shortly thereafter.

She urged students to take a proactive response to this tragedy by looking out for signs like the following: changes in behavior, suicidal comments and withdrawal from social interactions.

“What we want people to realize is suicide prevention is everyone’s responsbility," Boone said. "More people die in this country of suicide than of homicide. I don’t think people know that."

She said the window for suicide is often very small. Everyone contemplates suicide at least once in their lives, she said, but it's a journey from the thought to the action. She believes the impact of other people responding to the signs can make all the difference.

She urged students not to brush off suicidal comments or drastic behavioral changes in their peers as false alarms or cries for attention. It's not our job to judge if it's sincere, she said, but to respond by comforting and connecting our peers to professional help.

She cautioned students against feeling responsible for anyone's choice to self-harm, saying that it was entirely a personal decision. But being there for someone when all their coping mechanisms seem to fail can make a difference, she said, and that's our every day responsibility.

Often people are afraid of appearing too pushy or forward when they ask someone what's really going on. Boone said breaking those boundaries and asking the question is worth the momentary discomfort.

"Don’t ever think by asking you’re going to get them to kill themselves; many times they’re relieved," Boone said. "Would you rather have your friend angry with you or not here?"

Support is not just essential for those contemplating suicide, but for those simply experiencing the stress of the college lifestyle and circumstantial difficulties. Loneliness is also something everyone must learn to cope with to some degree, she said, and that itself is worth lending your time and comfort.

"People are afraid to talk, to question," she said. "But so many people feel isolated and disconnected and just knowing that someone else cares enough to ask that really difficult question may make a difference."

Boone pointed to a bulletin board near her office which displayed many world leaders who battled with severe mental illness and went on to do great things. She said her goal is for students to realize that mental illness, longterm or temporary, does not make a person weak or incompetent.

She hopes that students realize the benefit of seeking counseling instead of using unhealthy coping mechanisms or none at all.

“If you have some issues that are really, really hard to cope with, why wait until they are severe or until they cause some real problems in your life?” Boone said.

Boone said that constantly distracting oneself from the issue is also a dangerous practice.

“The problem’s not going away,” she said. “If you just continue to distract yourself, it’s still there. It’s still underlying everything. It’s still having an impact possibly on your happiness.”

Engaging in meaningful activities and friendships is important for students, Boone said, but she stressed the importance of doing so in a healthy frame of mind, by seeking help, so that they are able to enjoy those activities. She hopes that, together, we can eliminate the stigma and be that net of support for each other.

“More people die in this country of suicide than of homicide.” Rebecca Boone



Dani Carter, senior, rocking the layered look in the union.

Demon Style: Layering to warm the Louisiana chill

Hannah Richardson
Photographer

Layering your outfit is a perfect idea in this slightly chilly Louisiana weather. One trend I noticed when the new semester began was that a lot of girls were rocking the cardigan/scarf combination.

If you're in a rush to get to class, it's an easy time-saver to just throw on a scarf and cardigan over plain clothes. There are so many outfit combinations you can create with different shirts, jeans/leggings, scarves and cardigans.

What's the point in looking great if you feel uncomfortable in your outfit?

Dani Carter, a senior double-majoring in psychology and addiction studies, says that wearing a cardigan and scarf keeps her comfortable and fits her personality. She believes that scarves can help keep an outfit modest.

"Modest is hottest!" she said with a smile.

Besides keeping you warm, scarves can bring a pop of color to your outfit. With so many different combinations, it's easy to look amazing every day of the week.



Rachel Neathamer also wore layers to help stay warm.

NS'U' VOICE

'Do you think it is important to set New Year's Resolutions for yourself?'

Photos by Hannah Richardson



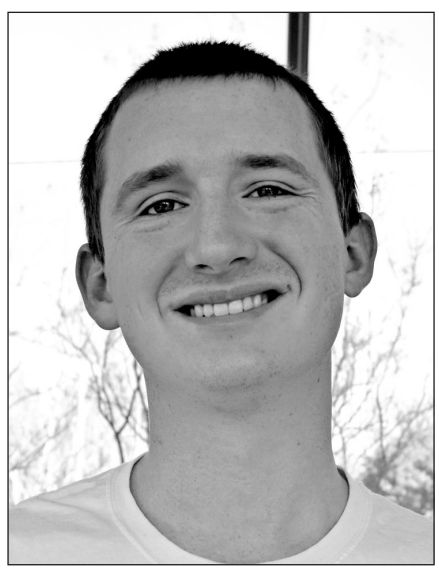
Demmi O'Donnell
Junior, HMT

"Yes, because in order to achieve what you want to achieve, goals are very important to set up. My resolution for this year is to focus more on school and have a more balanced life between school, working out and Tri-Sigma."



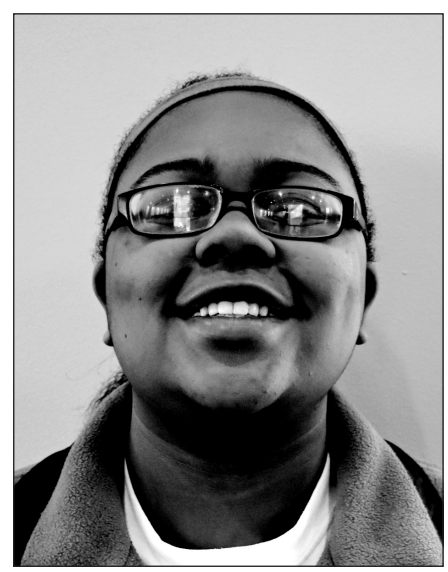
Jade Richmond
Sophomore, Psychology

"I don't set resolutions: I set goals for myself. If you set a resolution, it's there for a set amount of time. A goal just keeps going up and up. For me, goals are better than resolutions."



Travis Baston
Sophomore, Criminal Justice

"I think that if I need to make a change, I will make the change whenever I can. I'm just going to be a better person in general and work more on my grades."



Kurissa Parks
Freshman, Music Education

"I think it is important to set resolutions for yourself because it's like another way of setting goals...My resolution is to become a better music major because I'm slacking right now. I know I can do better."

2015's Hidden Gems:

A flashback to last year's secrets

Josh Fontenot
Social Media Coordinator

It is a new year, and what better way to kick it off than discovering new music? With new artists bursting onto the scene what seems like daily, it is easy to let some of them fly under the radar.

Some may look back on 2015 and recall Drake's now iconic "Hotline Bling" or maybe Adele's long-awaited come back, but so much more happened under our noses.

First on my list is "Blue Neighbourhood" by Troye Sivan, who some might compare to Lorde. His debut album quietly released early last December after making a handful of singles in previous years.

Troye's dreamy vocal quality combined with hard-hitting baselines and melodic undertones take you to a place of star-crossed lovers and hopeful dreams. Must-listens from this album include "Bite" and "DKLA" which perfectly display Sivan's musical abilities. The 20-year-old kicks off his nearly sold out North American tour February, meaning you still have some time to get in the loop.

Another gem you may have bypassed is Grimes' fourth album "Art Angels." In this album, we see Claire Boucher leave behind her more unique antics that she has embodied in previous works to make one of the most cohesive albums of the year.

Grimes' new music can be somewhat comparable to Taylor Swift's pop reinvention. From its operatic opening number "Laughing and not being normal" to its soothing "Life in the Vivid Dream," there is not a track that does not impress.

One of the best on the album, "Venus Fly," features the always amazing Janelle Monáe, telling you right off the bat this album is something you absolutely must pay attention to. The record's upbeat vibes will have you feeling like a teenage girl, dancing around her room, and who would not love that?

Lastly, if you enjoy Fleet Foxes or anything of the sort, Father John Misty (Josh Tillman) released my favorite album of 2015 entitled "I Love You, Honeybear," a record so filled with tenderness and disillusion that it's almost sickening. Misty gives you folk at its finest, making you feel as if he is displaying his heart for you on the kitchen table. In a way he is, which makes this album all the more endearing.

Tillman works his way through the trials and tribulations of love and life, finally coming to a simple conclusion at the end of the album, which is: be open, be real and love people.

Let's hope 2016 brings us even more musical geniuses.

How to win the Powerball

Karla Ewing
Opinions Editor

The Powerball functions as a branch of the Multi-State Lottery Association (MUSL). The MUSL is owned and operated by its 36 member lotteries, including 44 States, Washington D.C., Puerto Rico, and the US Virgin Islands. The MUSL, according to powerball.com, is a non-profit, government-benefit association. Profits made by the individual state's lottery games are used as funding for various projects once being approved by state legislature.

Powerball tickets cost $2. According to CNN, the odds of winning a Powerball jackpot in 1 in 175,223,510.

The Powerball is drawn every Wednesday and Saturday at 10:59 p.m. Eastern Time and ticket sales are ended at least 59 minutes before the draw if not specified earlier by specific states. The process includes the drawing of five white balls from 69 and one red ball from 26. The five white balls in any order and the red Powerball win the jackpot. The prize may be taken as an annuity, paid out over 29 years, or a cash lump sum payment.

Missing Out

Editorial
Editorial Staff

We find ourselves now in Spring 2016 – new year, new excitements, new battles. We pass each other walking to class with quick smiles or averted eyes, just trying to keep our heads above water.

We cope the best we know how, and we try our best not to hurt anyone along the way. It seems good enough most days, right? All the while in the back of our minds we wonder, “What are we missing?”

The truth is, with our heads down and headphones in, we miss a great deal. We miss out on friends who care and conversations that help us see from a different perspective. We miss out on people.

Sure, they can be disappointing and hurtful. The great paradox of life it seems is that the thing we need most is also the thing that can hurt the worst: people.

There’s no getting around it. And, yes, even those who aren’t “people people” still need this elusive thing called “connection.”

Remember that time when all you thought you needed was to be by yourself, then that pushy friend refused to let you be lonely alone, brought the popcorn and made you laugh against your will? You needed it, though you didn’t know it then.

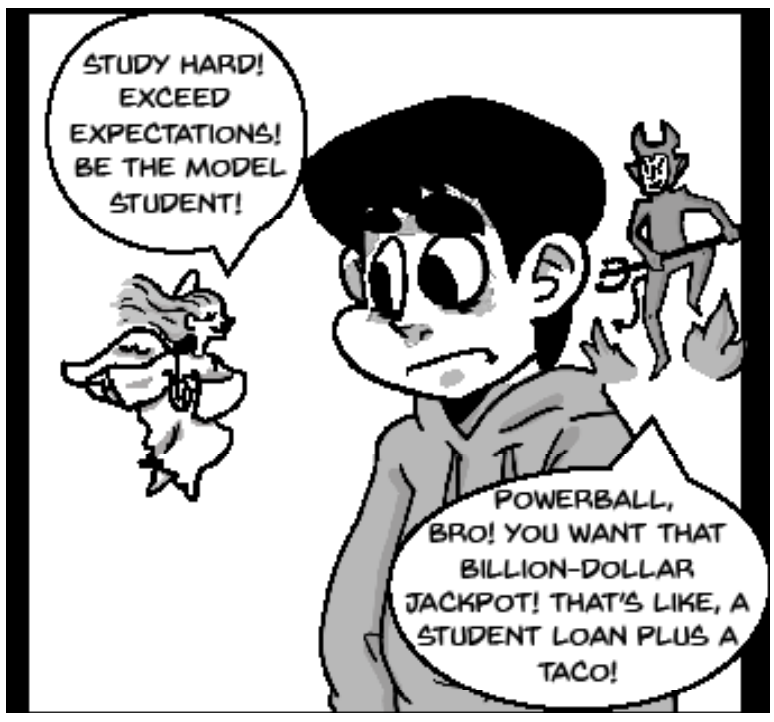
Sometimes the fear of appearing too pushy coupled with a fear of rejection stops us from reaching out to those around us. We opt out from saying “hi” to the stranger walking beside us on the way to class or calling that old friend to hang out. What are we missing?

We’re not only missing out on friendships, we’re missing the chance to help. To be that pushy stranger or friend who isn’t afraid to show they care.

We may be missing the chance to help someone through the hardest moment of their life: a breakup, depression, stress or problems at home. We may be missing the chance to stop someone going down the wrong road before it’s too late.

We at The Current Sauce encourage you to stop missing out, to reach out to people even though it may be uncomfortable, find meaningful connections and lift up your peers when you see the opportunity.

Sometimes all it takes is looking up from our own problems to see the needs around you. Nothing quite fills the void of loneliness like helping someone else not feel so alone.



Comic Design by Hannah Fulton

#wasteoftime2016

New social media trend raises questions about harmless pranks or cruel behaviors

Jade Williams
Staff Writer

As of late 2015, the #wastehistime2016 and #wastehertime2016 have been trending on social media. The hashtag provides what most consider to be comical ideas on how to potentially waste your significant others' time.

The posts vary in their severity, and some even appear to be real-life occurrences. We all love a good laugh, but, with the influential grasp social media has on society, some individuals may actually embark on these enticing ideas.

Yes, these posts make us laugh, and we're eager to see new ones, but what happens when someone takes them too seriously? People of all genders mess with the ones closest to them out of spite. Some do it just to be malicious and to attempt to warm their cold, dead hearts. Jealousy or seeking revenge may also be the culprit.

Pursuing your vindictiveness makes you no better than the other person. Some of these posts may have come from personal experiences. A little comic relief is nice and healthy, but what about those who have actually suffered from these pranks?

Consequently, if you hit someone, they most likely will hit you back, and possibly harder. One post that stuck with me tells women to catch a flight on their wedding day while sending him a message saying, "I catch flights, not feelings."

Most people wait a few years before marrying someone and spend that time getting to know that person, their character and their lifestyle.

No matter the reason, it is not worth it to spend years of your life with someone you have no intention of being with for the long haul, just to get back at them for something that most likely happened a long time ago. An eye for an eye makes the world blind.

If this is how "relationships" are handled nowadays, we will all lose sight of what it is like to have true feelings for someone. Furthermore, we will lose the significance of a true, loving relationship.

What’s making you fat?

Airrol Angelle
Staff Writer

When I went into work last week the only thought I had was, “another day, another fist full of change no one should have to live on.” Not much happens at a breakfast restaurant. A customer and his wife came in around 11 a.m. for brunch and I cannot seem to shake our interaction from my thoughts.

They are regulars, regulars that I am not very fond of because they think their “regular” status means they are entitled to emotionally abuse the wait staff. Almost everyone unfortunate enough to have worked as a server knows the type: They yell at you from across the restaurant, they tell you what they need one item at a time to watch you run back and forth to the kitchen, they argue about prices, they mispronounce your name on purpose, then they leave you a 50 cent tip and drive off in a new Jag.

Anyway, everything started off as usual; I got them their coffee and water. The man started to tell me his order, “two eggs over medium, bacon, grits and wheat toast.” His wife, who is so frail she can barely lift her glass of water, usually orders one scrambled egg and dry wheat toast, but this time she decided to splurge and add an order of grits. From the look on her husband’s face, you would have thought she just announced she was having an affair.

After a pause, he leaned back and said, “That’s gonna make you fat.” She tried to disagree with him. Meanwhile, I am still standing there because I have no idea where this is going. He turns to me and says, “How ‘bout you, Airrol? What’s making you fat?” To which I replied, “Probably the eating disorder I’ve developed to cope with the comments strangers make about my weight.”

I know, I got too real, but I believe he needed to hear it because his wife is not the only victim of his comments. He also tells his teenage granddaughters they are getting fat. I guess he thinks it is funny, but I am not hearing any laughter from anyone on the receiving end of those comments.

Despite popular belief, men can also suffer from eating disorders. I have lived my whole life either extremely overweight or extremely underweight. Recently I have lost around 100 pounds, and his comment was so unwarranted that it shook me into realizing I should stop listening to assholes and start listening to doctors.

I interviewed Sarah Ebarb, a counselor intern at NSU, to get her thoughts on the subject. In her opinion, even if weight comments are intended to be humorous, it can still help to develop an eating disorder in someone else.

Her advice for those suffering from the negative effects of these comments is to seek affirmation and support from close friends. She also added that the NSU Counselling Center is another place to find support.

Baseball scholarship endowment established in tribute to the late Julien Vienne

Doug Ireland
Sports Information Director

The Julien Vienne Baseball Endowed Scholarship has been established at Northwestern State to honor the memory of a career educator who was an All-Gulf States Conference third baseman for the Demons.

Vienne, 75, passed away Saturday at his Natchitoches home. Visitation was set for Monday evening from 5-8 at Blanchard St. Denis Funeral Home of Natchitoches, with a funeral mass Tuesday at 2 at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church of Natchitoches.

A three-time All-GSC selection from 1960-62, Vienne was a 1962 NSU graduate who also earned a master's degree plus 30 hours in education from Northwestern State. He was a U.S. Army veteran, serving from 1962-65.

A teacher and coach in Grant and Natchitoches parishes, Vienne coached the Campti High School girls basketball team to the state semifinals in 1977. He went on to work at Natchitoches Junior High for 30 years and also worked for the Natchitoches Recreation Department each summer, directing adult softball leagues.

Vienne was a standout high school athlete at Menard Catholic High School in Alexandria. He is survived by his wife, Diane DeBlieux Vienne, along with their daughter Cecelia, son William, and the extended family. At least a dozen of the family have graduated from NSU.

To contribute to the Julien Vienne Baseball Endowed Scholarship at NSU, contact assistant athletic director Haley Blount (blounth@nsula.edu) or mail a contribution to NSU Athletics.

The endowment is the latest added to the Perpetually Purple endowed giving program operated by the Demons Unlimited Foundation, the 501-c-3 private foundation which supports NSU Athletics.

Krutova's two wins set pace for Lady Demons in Florida

Doug Ireland
Sports Information Director

Northwestern State senior Natalya Krutova posted a pair of singles wins Saturday to reach the A draw singles semifinals of the Florida Gulf Coast Spring Invite women's tennis tournament. Krutova was the only one of the Lady Demons to sweep both singles matches on the opening day of the three-day event.

She recorded a 7-5, 6-2 win over Elizabeth Means of the host team, then notched a three-set 6-2, 3-6, 6-3 triumph over Olaya Inclan of St. John's in the quarterfinal round. Polina Mutel beat Ana Pain of Barry University 6-4, 6-3 in the opening round of the B singles, but fell 6-2,6-2 to St. John's Zofia Stanisz in the quarters.

Alzbeta Veverkova recovered from an opening-round 6-1, 6-4 defeat to FGCU's Julia Ascua and won 6-0, 6-1 in the consolation B draw over Victoria Pisani of Arkansas State. Iryna Vardanian also gave NSU a consolation win with an epic 3-6, 7-6 (4), 10-8 triumph over Breana Stampfli of FGCU.

In her opening match, Vardanian played another three-setter, falling 7-5, 4-6, 6-0 to St. John's Natallia Vavulina. Ilijana Ivic fell twice Saturday in the B singles, bowing 6-2, 6-2 to Tjasa Jerse of Southern Mississippi, then 6-2, 7-5 to Sabina Jeresic of Arkansas State. In the C singles draw, NSU's Barbora Kollarova was beaten 6-1, 6-1 by FGCU's Julianna Curtis. The Lady Demons dropped two doubles matches.

Mutel and Kollarova wre beaten 6-1 by Stanisz and Vavulina of St. John's, while Ivic and Veverkova were edged 7-6 by the Southern Mississippi tandem of Claudia Castella and Marta Rusczynka.



Natalya Krutova was the only Lady Demon to win both single matches on the opening day of the Florida Gulf Coast Spring Invite. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*



Triple jumper Por'sha Thomas assisted NSU in wins at the Bayou Bengal Invitational hosted by LSU. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Three first places by NSU at LSU meet

Doug Ireland
Sports Information Director

Triple jump wins by seniors Emmanuel Williams and Por'sha Thomas, and a women's shot put victory by freshman Destiney Myers, highlighted Northwestern State's worksheet Saturday at the Bayou Bengal Invitational indoor track and field meet hosted by LSU.

The Lady Demons were second and the Demons third in team scoring in their divisions of the four-team meet. LSU headed both the women's and men's standings, with the women posting 172.5 points to 108.5 by Northwestern State, 93 by SLU and 74 for Southern, and the men scoring 141 to 114 for SLU, 106 by NSU and 78 for Southern.

NSU competitors posted 15 medal stand finishes, including eight second places and four thirds. Williams posted the nation's 10th-best leap with a winning 50-10 triple jump. His twin brother Aaron Williams was third with a 50-1 ¾ mark that ranks 16th in the country.

Thomas won the women's triple with a 40-0 performance and teammate Breann Denson was second at 39-9 ¾. Thomas was second in the long jump (17-9).

Myers won the women's shot put on a 46-3 ¼ throw and senior Rechelle Bessard was runner up at 42-9 ½. Bessard was also second in the weight throw (58-1 ¼).

Aaron Williams was runner up in the long jump (23-8 ¼) and freshman Jacorious Jeter was third at 23-3 ½. The Demons also finished 2-3 in the high jump, with Quinton Helaire placing above Lawrence Wallace on fewer misses after both cleared 6-8.

Continued on nsudemons.com

Defense Anchors Lady Demons Big Win

Reginald Williams
Staff Writer

The NSU Lady Demons took the floor Wednesday night for the first home conference game of the spring semester. NSU (10-6, 4-1) defeated the Islanders of Texas A&M Corpus Christi (3-12, 0-4) 60-43.

Lockdown defense coupled with hot shooting from beyond the arch lead the Lady Demons to their fourth conference win of the season. Senior all-conference guard Janelle Perez started the defensive showcase forcing three of the four Islander turnovers in the first quarter of play, leading to the Lady Demons scoring eight points off of those four turnovers.

NSU would never again trail in the game after the 2-0 lead the Islanders had to start the game. The sharpshooting Lady Demons shot a smoking 4-4 from three, and forced four more turnovers in the second quarter to boast them a commanding 30-14 lead going into halftime.

Janelle Perez lead all scorers with 15 points at the half, shooting 5-9 from the field, 3-5 from three, and 2-2 at the stripe. The second half of the game told much of the same story, with stonewall defense, great shooting and tough rebounding by NSU.

Fellow senior guard Keisha Lee and junior Beatrice Attura would join Perez with the sharpshooting both posting double-digit performances on the night, with 13 points a piece.

The Lady Demons continued their defensive clinic in the fourth forcing 18 turnovers for the game leading to 24 points. The big three of Perez, Attura and Lee along with solid defense proved to be too much for the Islanders.

Perez who had a game high 20 points said, "We're just taking it one game at a time. Every game is important. We're going to prepare for Saturday. Tonight was a big win for us, but we still have a lot of work to do."

The Lady Demons take to the road to face the Lamar Cardinals in Beaumont, Texas, on Saturday the 16th at 2 p.m. The next Lady Demon home game will be on the 27th at 6:30 p.m. against the Sugar Bears of Central Arkansas.



Lady Demons defeated Texas A&M Corpus Christi 60-43 at the first home conference game of the spring semester. Junior Beatrice Attura earned the Lady Demons 13 of the 60 points. The next home game will be on Jan. 27 where the Lady Demons will face off against the Sugar Bears of Central Arkansas.

Photo by Sheila Humphrey

High-ranking players lead NSU to LSU's Bayou Bengal Invite



Emmanuel Williams' performance at LSU's Bayou Bengal Invitational led to a top 10 ranking across the nation.

Photo by Gary Hardamon

Doug Ireland
Sports Information Director

With sprinter Amir James and All-American jumper Emmanuel Williams both ranking in the top 10 nationally after one competition, the Northwestern State track and field teams go back to LSU Saturday for the Bayou Bengal Invitational indoor meet.

Field events begin at 9 a.m. with running starting at noon, and competition wrapping up at the Carl Maddox Field House before 4 p.m. between LSU, NSU, Southeastern Louisiana and Southern. Live results will be available at Results/DeltaTiming.com/LSU.

Williams, a senior, stands fifth in the country after posting a 25-1 ¾ long jump last week at the LSU Purple Tiger Invitational. He and his twin brother Aaron, who did not record a mark last week, will also compete Saturday in their specialty, the triple jump, which was not contested last week.

Also getting their first chance to compete in the triple are the Lady Demon tandem of four-time Southland champion Por'sha Thomas and Breann Denson, third at last May's Southland Outdoors.

James ranks eighth nationally in the men's 200 dash with his winning 21.30 last Friday night. His 6.78 in the 60 meter dash is 26th in the country.

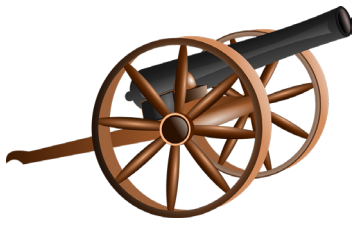
Nearly the entire rosters for the Demons and Lady Demons will compete in Saturday's meet. Next weekend, the NSU teams go to Missouri Southern before a Jan. 30 competition at McNeese completes the run-up to the Feb. 15-16 Southland Conference Indoor Championships.



Graphic from Creative Commons

PUT A FORK IN IT

The Christmas Hoax:



The Stolen Kappa Alpha Canon

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

The Natchitoches Christmas Festival of Lights incorporates many different aspects of Natchitoches and the display of the KA Canon is no exception. This is because the fraternity house resides within the historic district of Natchitoches.

The KA Canon is one of the main symbols used to represent the fraternity. It sits on its respected hill next to the fraternity house located on 322 Second St.

Contrary to the claim on the social media application Yik Yak that spread the tale of the canon's disappearance, the current president of the fraternity, Hunter Curtis, said it remained in its designated spot throughout the Christmas holiday.

The explanation Curtis gave to support his confidence that the canon never moved an inch over the break, outside of his brothers' acknowledgement, is the fact that the canon is welded into place and filled with concrete. This added security ensured that such a theft never occurred then and guarantees that it'll never occur in the future.



Confetti Cannons are released at graduation during Fall 2015 ceremony. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

NSU Hosts Rock Star Graduation

Karla Ewing
Opinions Editor

Last year Northwestern State University's graduation ceremony got a face lift, or more likely a fork lift to hang up all the new staging features.

Standing out from past graduations, this new ceremony was more like a graduation rock concert, with added lighting and confetti cannons among other factors that created a celebration for the graduates.

Alumni Gregory Spencer Jr. graduated in the fall of 2014 with a degree in general studies and a minor in dance and social science. The Fall 2014 graduation was the last ceremony President Webb presided over.

"I love it but like any other graduation we could have used a shorter better speaker or a comedian," Spencer said.

Henderson emphasizes that "commencement exercises, in my view, should be a celebration of the graduates." He noted that changes were made for the Spring 2015 graduation to create a more prominent role for students and faculty.

"While those changes were well received, we were not satisfied that the event captured the spirit of the occasion," he said.

Henderson then met with Vice President of External Affairs Jerry Pierce, Associate Provost Steven Horton, and Creative and Performing Arts Director Greg Handle in October. Dr. Henderson wanted to design a ceremony that "put a celebratory focus on the graduates."

"We will make a few more tweaks, but commencement at NSU will be a one-of-a-kind celebration worthy of the newest members of the long purple line of Demon Alumni," he said.

Among the logistical changes, the graduation gowns were also changed from black to NSU purple. Of the gowns Alumni Spencer noted, "I could not get passed the purple robes. I was not a fan of the black."

Alumni Taylor LeGrand graduated this past December with a degree in hospitality management and tourism with a minor in music performance.

"Graduation was seriously like walking into a rock concert and all us graduates were the main acts," LeGrand said. "It was amazing and so special!"

She commented that in a single year, "commencement went from a boring, traditional ceremony to an exciting and celebratory event. I was proud and honored to be sitting on the floor that day."

Alumni Richard Obie Erwin graduated with a degree in mathematics and industrial engineering technology. He described the changes as "phenomenal, although there was no concert in between ceremonies."

Logistically Erwin noted, "The lighting of the stage seemed to make the whole process more dramatic and personal. The stage itself was well designed such that it allowed the audience to see each individual, and also allow adequate flow to make the entire ceremony faster."

He stated that the ceremony was more of an experience for not just the graduates but the audience as well.

"Although, we never had the opportunity to throw up our hats, we were able to enjoy the thrilling experience of having exquisite confetti strewn about in our honor," Erwin said. "It was definitely an experience I won't forget, as all who were present shall not forget."

Alumni Dennis Hyde graduated with a bachelor of music with a concentration of music business.

"I thought the changes were awesome and a lot easier and more fun to sit through than previous graduations," Hyde said.



President Henderson speaks at Fall 2015 graduation. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Results of survey on who students plan to vote for in presidential election



Page

New barbies highlight long-time concerns over impact on image



Page

Super Bowl 50 covered from game to halftime to resulting controversies



Page

THE CURRENTSAUCE

Budget crisis threatens funding

Meg Denny & Kayla Rya
Staff Writers



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City council discusses future amenities

Damian Glover
Staff Writer

A multipurpose complex is a possibility for the City of Natchitoches and Northwestern State University. The city council unanimously voted to place the proposition on the ballot.

Now, the final decision will be up to the citizens of Natchitoches during elections on April 9 when they vote on the re-dedication of an already existing sales tax.

On Monday evening, dozens of citizens gathered in the Arts Center to attend the city council meeting. Several ordinances and resolutions pertaining to the future of the city were discussed.

Ordinance number 65 of 2015 was one of the first topics. It mainly focused on the possibility of building a temporary bridge while the current Church Street Bridge would be repaired.

The main problem that citizens brought up was the location of where the temporary bridge would be located.

Ben Rushing, a citizen of Natchitoches, was first to take the stand and deliver a message to the councilmen and the city regarding where he stood on the issue.

Rushing made it a point to reveal three of his major concerns: He believed the land -- which the city had already had appraised -- could be bought at a lower price, that major safety issues could arise for school-aged children and that the city should think outside of the box about its future.

After citizens voiced their concerns, the councilmen voted unanimously to go against the possibility of building a temporary bridge, which had proven to be against the citizen's wishes.

The meeting shifted focus to the prosperous future of not only the city but also the university.

While appearing on a local radio talk show, Mayor Lee Posey discussed the city's plan to put a new tax initiative on the ballot, according to the Natchitoches Parish Journal. The proposed ad valorem tax, if passed, would fund a new recreation complex built on property owned (and made available for use) by Northwestern State University.

The recreation complex would primarily offer a playing field for sports as well as walking trails. The mayor anticipates that the complex would draw numerous tournaments to the area.

Citizens who attended the meeting with prepared speeches about the tax were met with a new proposition that would not increase the money going toward taxes but redirect a current tax that isn't being used to benefit the this new recreation complex.

The proposition presented at the meeting suggested that 50 percent of an already existing one percent tax be dedicated for the purposes of constructing, acquiring, improving, operating and maintaining sewers, sewerage disposal works and waterworks facilities.



Mayor Posey and City Councilmen Mims lead an open meeting.



Natchitoches citizens attended the forum to talk about the temporary bridge and possible tax for a new sports complex at NSU. *Photos by Sheila Humphrey*

The remaining 50 percent of the tax would be directed to constructing, acquiring and improving public streets, drainage, and parks and recreation facilities.

The revenue gained from this tax re-dedication could produce an excess of approximately $4 million.

An election will be held in the city of Natchitoches on April 9 between the hours of 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. To register to vote in the city of Natchitoches, please visit onlinevoterregistration.sos.la.gov.

Local Crime

Continued from Front

The door was secured when they arrived, and they reported no signs of forced entry, Moran said. They also recovered a handgun at the scene.

There are currently no other suspects involved in the incident, but the investigation is ongoing, according to the release.

Students quickly responded to this incident on social media asking for prayers and support. Kappa Phi Christian fraternity, where Goodrich is a founder and long-time member, also partnered with the Catholic Student Organization Tuesday night to pray for Goodrich and Brown.

The group prayed together aloud for Goodrich to be protected and healed, "body, mind and spirit." They also prayed for Brown and his family. Senior Jessica Fletschinger prayed aloud for Goodrich, a senior education major, to be able to "finish her degree and become a teacher like she's always wanted."

Goodrich's Kappa Phi sisters also shared their sympathies with each other. "She's my sister; I love her," junior nursing major Angela Mitchell said. Kappa Phi president Adrienne Collins also described Goodrich as a caring person who has a special love for animals and children.

Another prayer vigil is scheduled for Wednesday night at 6 p.m. on the Brickway to join in support of the victims and families.

Chipotle closes doors nationwide to promote food safety

An-gel Samuel
Writer & Opinions Editor

Those Chipotle lovers out there might want to mark their calendars. Chipotle is taking action to fix its major health accusations, but the good news is it's only temporary.

On Feb. 8, Chipotle will shut down all of its locations nationwide for one day to hold a national staff meeting about food and health safety, according to an article by CNN.

The temporary close is for a company-wide meeting on how to prevent further issues with food safety, according to an article by Refinery29.

"All U.S. restaurants will be closed for lunch and will re-open at 3 p.m. in each time zone," Chipotle said on its Facebook page.

In recent months, Chipotle has become barricaded with illness, their food sickening hundreds of people with E. coli, salmonella and norovirus. As the illnesses linked to Chipotle increased, the company's sales dropped 30 percent, and its stocks plummeted almost 40 percent, according to USnews.com.

Chipotle has been under fire since October, when E. coli cases linked to locations in Oregon and Washington, according to AL.com. In December, more cases were reported in seven other states.

Founder and CEO Steve Ells penned an open letter taking full responsibility for what happened and outlining a game plan to prevent reoccurrences to win back the trust of customers, according to CNBC.

In December, Chipotle announced it was implementing a food safety program for its restaurants and throughout its supply chain. The program includes testing all of its fresh produce before it's shipped to restaurants, testing ingredient samples to make sure they are not past their shelf lives and enhancing food safety training for employees, according to AL.com.

"I'm hopeful that the CDC will call this over soon," Ells said in an interview with Matt Lauer. "We know that Chipotle is as safe as it's ever been before. We are all very confident that this E. coli outbreak would not happen again."

The goal is to make Chipotle a safe environment to eat and to put an end to all things E. coli. Ells also said that he would even double the amount of free food to win back customers.

In the meantime, executives from Chipotle have been meeting with officials from the Centers for Disease Control to put an end to the outbreaks, according to Refinery29.

"When we reopen the restaurant will be sanitized and every single employee will be tested and assured that they do not have norovirus," Ells said in the interview.

According to E! News, the initial cause of the E. coli outbreak has yet to be detected. But all 64 ingredients have been and will continue to be tested for viruses.

To recap, Chipotle regulars may have to find a substitute on Feb. 8. But it's all for the greater good to put an end to the E. coli suspicion and to stop customers from getting sick. Just remember, it's only for a few hours.

Student voting numbers down

James Wade
Contributing Writer



Graphic by Hannah Fulton

It's that time again. This year is an election year, and the Democratic and Republican primaries are taking place on March 5 in Louisiana. The purpose of the primaries is to nominate a candidate for President of the United States.

Louisiana has "closed primaries," meaning that voters may only vote for a candidate if their party registration matches that of the candidate. For example, a registered Republican wouldn't be able to vote for Sen. Bernie Sanders in the Democratic primary.

Conversely, a registered Democrat would be unable to support Donald Trump as the Republican nominee. The deadline for voter registration in Louisiana for the primaries and local elections is Wednesday, Feb. 3.

Also, Louisiana has an app that allows voters to view what is on their ballot.

The app is called "Geaux Vote," and there is also a website bearing the same name: www.geauxvote.com. This creates a greater ease of access for voters in Louisiana, and allows voters to view real-time results during an election.

There are two ways for students to vote in the primaries, but the most convenient way is to register locally at the Registrar of Voters at the Natchitoches Parish Courthouse. Alternatively, if a student would like to vote in the primaries but does not wish to register in Natchitoches, then an absentee vote can be mailed out to the voter. In order to receive an absentee ballot, contact the Registrar of Voters in your home city.

According to census.gov, only 38 percent of young voters (18-24) voted in the 2012 Presidential election. In 1964 the percentage was 50.9. This is a steep downward trend.

In 2008, there was an uptick in voting when younger voters rallied together to elect President Barack Obama, but the enthusiasm had seemingly waned in 2012.

"Our Founding Fathers believed strongly that the design of our government could go a long way in preventing tyranny and preserving liberty," Dr. Greg Granger, professor of political science, said.

"However, separate institutions checking one another and the federal checks on concentrated power are not enough."

Granger believes an "informed and engaged citizenry" is essential to maintain civil liberties and to keep the government in check.






Candidates diverge in millennial appeal

Savannah Bassett
Staff Writer

Politics is one of those areas that can seem like a foreign subject at times, especially to those at a young age. As people grow older, however, the subject's level of importance become clearer.

Through lectures in school, media and exposure at home, individuals are able to shape their own political and social opinions. The year 2016 is now upon us, which means that President Obama's term is coming to an end. As a result, the public has been presented with a new batch of presidential candidates.

For the Republicans, Donald Trump leads with 36.2 percent, while Ted Cruz follows behind with 19.3 percent. Hillary Clinton leads for the Democrats with 52 percent and Bernie Sanders is not far behind with 37.4 percent. The question up for investigation is, "Which candidates are appealing most to Millennials and why?"

A poll taken at Harvard University asked individuals ages 18 to 29 which candidates appealed most to them. The outcome showed that Trump was most favored by those who identified as Republican while the younger Democrats preferred Bernie Sanders, over Democratic front-runner Hillary Clinton.

In the same poll, results showed that the majority (56 percent) of Millennials said that they would rather a Democrat win the elections over a Republican. Only 36 percent of younger individuals deemed a Republican win ideal. The approval ratings have fallen on the Republican side since another poll that was taken in April.

Many may wonder what young people find so appealing about these candidates. Both Sanders and Clinton support making higher education more affordable and accessible, support LGBTQ+ rights and women's rights, and support fair and humane immigrations policies.

On the Republican side, both Trump and Cruz want to secure the American border and believe that Second Amendment rights should not be infringed upon. Neither mentions anything in their issues section about changing college tuition, supporting equality among the LGBTQ+ community or women in America. Social issues revolving around equality have become a big concern for the younger generations, especially college students.

In the past few years, Millennials have watched DOMA be overturned, multiple states legalize same-sex marriage, and the fight for women's rights continue. Witnessing all of those changes, and some more, has impacted the way younger individuals' view those issues. It has heightened awareness towards social problems and how the handling of them can affect the future.

Millennials are the future of society and play an important role the country's progress. No matter what side one may lean towards, all voices matter.

For more insight, each candidate website offers thorough information on issues they support. Students can also make donations to campaigns and sign up to receive newsletters about their progress.

Photos from Creative Commons

SGA minutes

Monday, Jan. 25

•The parking pass bill passed last semester needs to be edited and voted on again.

•The updated SGA budget is on Org Sync.

•The Organizational Relief Fund spent a few dollars over $15,000 to fund different organizations' events during Monday's ORF meeting.

•SGA plans to have a speaker for Black History Month.

•SGA appointed eight new senators.

•The Club Fee Sports bill was approved. This bill will make it easier for Club Sports to get approved and funded.

•State Senator Gerald Long was just elected as President Pro Tempore. He is a generous alumnus to NSU. SGA passed a bill to personally congratulate Long and wish him the best of luck in his new position.

•The Starbucks on campus will start hiring students towards the end of February. Students may apply now, and should talk to Ronnie Mosley.

CORRECTION:
Last week, a cutline claimed Maglieaux's received less traffic this Christmas Fest, which is incorrect.
They in fact received above average traffic for the season and year as a whole. Read more at currentsaucenews.com.

Cooking With Vic

Terrian Marchand
Contributing Writer

Baked brie with pears and walnuts

Prep Time: 5 Mins. ***Cook Time: 20 Mins.*** ***Total Time: 25 Mins.***

Ingredients:

- 1 round (8oz.) Brie wrapped in puff pastry
- 2 8.25oz. Cans of Pear Chunks
- 2 Tablespoons of Light Brown Sugar
-¼ Tablespoon of Cinnamon
-A pinch of Ground Ginger
-½ cup of Chopped Walnuts
-2 Tablespoons of Dried Cranberries
-Fresh Baguette/Crackers for serving



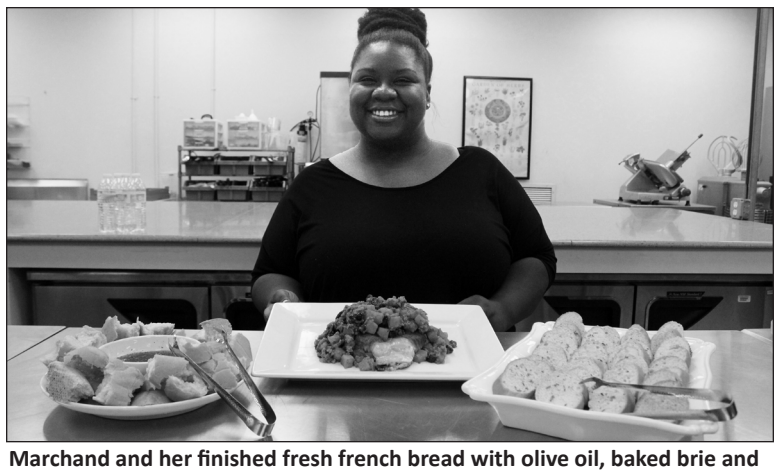
Freshly baked brie. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Have you ever wanted to dine like a rich French aristocrat, but only have a college students budget? Well, brie with a pear and walnut compote is the thing for my fellow foodies on a limited budget. Fruit and nut combinations will always satisfy that sweet and salty craving we all have. It contains very few ingredients and takes very little time.

First preheat your oven to 350 degrees. Then gather all of your ingredients. You can purchase brie from almost any grocery store. Brie may sometimes come wrapped in puff pastry, which is perfectly fine. Either way it's going to taste AMAZING! Place brie in an oven safe container for 20 minutes.

Now that you have your brie, let's get down to business. The pear and walnut compote is very easy to make. You only need a mixing bowl, a spoon and a sauce pan. To make the compote, start with the 8 ounce can of pears in 100 percent juice. Open the can and set aside ¼ cup of the juice (You're going to use it in a minute.) and drain off the rest. Place the pear chunks in a bowl with ½ cup walnuts, 2 tablespoons of dried cranberries, 2 tablespoons of light or dark brown sugar, ¼ tablespoon of cinnamon and a pinch of ground ginger. Stir mixture until well combined, then set the mixture in the refrigerator for 10 minutes.

When the brie is almost done take compote mixture and cook over medium heat for 5-8 minutes. Once the brie is finished place in a desired dish and place the warm compote over the brie. When time to serve, enjoy the looks on your guests faces as the warm brie begins to ooze out of its buttery flaky crust. If you really want to be fancy, serve with a toasted French baguette and enjoy!



Marchand and her finished fresh french bread with olive oil, baked brie and toasted french bread in the NSU culinary kitchen. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Cutting creativity from education

Savannah Bassett
Staff Writer



The cutting of art programs in schools has been a recent problem. The art classes disappearing from schools include music, foreign language, studio art and theater.

Cutting art programs may negatively affect many individuals. One of the main reasons for the elimination of these programs is the increased interest about careers revolving around the mathematics and sciences.

This has caused numerous schools to drop art courses as a way to make room for additional mathematics and science classes. While science and mathematics are important subjects to have knowledge of, artistic disciplines also hold a high level of importance.

Since 2008, more than 80 percent of schools have deleted art programs from their list of classes, according to Harvard's president, Drew Faust. In her article, "Extracurriculars are central to learning," Stacey Boyd states certain studies have shown that musical programs, specifically instrumental classes, help improve overall motor skills in those who take them. If these classes start at a young age, they can benefit the children as they grow, ultimately improving their communication skills as adults.

An experiment conducted at Northwestern University by cognitive neuroscientist Nina Krauss showed that adults who took music lessons as kids were able to process sounds from speech quicker than those who had never played, as reported by Boyd. Similar talents were shown in students who studied foreign languages. The individuals were able to think more analytically. Those who participated in visual arts and theater were able to think more creatively and express themselves more easily. Students who took art classes also tended to score higher on standardized tests, coincidentally in science and math.

Valeriya Metla, in her article, "School Art Programs: Should They Be Saved?", pointed out that those who took art classes made higher scores on the mathetmatics and science portions of standardized tests. This motivated administrators to add more mathematics and science courses to curriculums. The pupils who took art could attend lessons outside of school and do just as well.

Not every person may be artistically inclined, or even interested in the arts, but ultimately, "a little dabbling could be beneficial," stated Metla. Art education develops creativity and problem-solving skills, improves judgement and shows children that there are multiple perspectives, according to Metla.

Go for the ride: "Ride Along 2" entertains reviewer

An-Gel Samuel
Writer & Opinions Editor

The sequel to "Ride Along," "Ride Along 2," premiered Friday Jan. 15. I went the following day, and the premiere was very successful. The seats were so limited that some people had to sit on the floor or stand up in the aisles. Tickets had to be bought online either the day before or hours ahead of time.

"Ride Along 2" is rated PG-13 because of gunplay and profanity. The movie runs for one hour and 42 minutes.

Just like the original movie, the sequel consisted of the now probationary police officer Ben Barber (Kevin Hart) and detective James Payton (Ice Cube) heading off to complete a mission. Only this time, their mission is to head from Atlanta down to Miami, track down professional hacker A.J. (Ken Jeong) and stop a drug lord.

After finding out about the mission, Ben begs his future brother-in-law, James, to take him to Miami. Ben wants to prove that he has what it takes to be a cop, but James refuses. After having a talk with his sister, James decides to let Ben accompany him to Miami. James figured that this mission would be a great way to prove to Ben that he doesn't have what it takes to be a cop. Just like the first movie, Ben is unexplainably chatty and annoying during the movie while James continues to ignore him.

The goal is to capture the drug lord, save their jobs and make it back home in time for Barber to marry Angela, James' sister (Tike Sumpter). One difference between this movie and the original is Ice Cube has a new love interest named Maya (Olivia Munn).

I personally enjoyed the movie because it was highly entertaining and hilariously funny. It held my attention the whole time and had my lungs gasping for air from scene to scene. But others seem to think differently.

It is a lot like the first movie considering the plot, but different locations and actors have been introduced. Others see it as a way to milk their chemistry from the first "Ride Along."

"Another tired, witless and potentially lucrative attempt to spin an exhausted buddy-cop template into action-comedy gold," Justin Chang said in an online review. "Hart and Cube are too good to settle for hawking leftovers," another online reviewer, Peter Travers said. "They deserve better. So do we."

Double the reeds, double the fun

Karla Ewing
A&E Editor

NSU hosted its third annual Double Reed Day Sunday, Jan. 25. Double Reed Day is an event for students from surrounding middle and high schools, Northwestern students, and other oboe and bassoon enthusiasts. Students attended from across Louisiana and Texas.

The event was hosted by Professor Leah Forsyth, NSU's oboe professor, and Dr. Doug Bakenhus, NSU's bassoon professor. The event consisted of reed making classes, master classes and a guest artist recital at 4 p.m. that was open to the public. The day's events were held in Magale Recital Hall and the orchestra room.

The guest artist presented was Dr. Mark Ostoich, professor of oboe at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM) and Forsyth's former instructor. During the recital, Ostoich was joined by Forsyth, Bakenhus and Elena Bogaczova on the piano.

Ostoich received a Doctor of Music Arts degree from Louisiana State University. He performs in solo and chamber music settings and is a known recitalist and clinician for master classes.

Along with the guest recital, Double Reed Day ended with a large double reed ensemble. The ensemble was a performance opportunity for anyone who attended the event. The ensemble rehearsed at the beginning of the event. The day continued with an hour long oboe reed making class in the orchestra room and the bassoon master class in Magale.



Dr. Mark Ostoich and NSU orchestra conductor Dr. Bakenhus perform an oboe and bassoon duet. *Photo by Sheila Humphrey*

The sessions then switched to a bassoon reed making class in the orchestra room and an oboe master class in Magale. After the classes, attendees were given a snack and shopping break. In the orchestra room was a vendor from San Antonio, Gillian Lopez. Lopez owns a double reed supply company, River City Reeds, and sells Fossati oboes. Participants were allowed to play on her display pieces. Students were also given the opportunity to have an intimate answer and question opportunity with Ostoich after his recital, before the ensemble.

The reeds of the oboe and bassoon are woodwind instruments that have two blades that vibrate together to create their unique sound .

"Both the oboe and bassoon players spend a lot of time learning to make their own reeds because it is a big factor in the type of sound that we have as players," explained Forsyth.

Rachel Zytkoskee is pursuing a masters in music with a concentration in performance and volunteered during Double Reed Day. She stated that Double Reed Day is important because it allows double reed students to be around others who understand the specialized instruments. Zytkoskee noted that Double Reed Day is a great opportunity and the students get to have fun.

"I didn't get the opportunity to do anything like this in high school," Zytkoskee said. She explained that many middle and high school programs don't have double reed instructors, and, unless the students hire a private instructor, they have to teach themselves.

"There's not a lot of support for double reeds," Zytkoskee said, "It's important for these players to get together." Zytkoskee loves teaching and of the event she stated, "It's really exciting seeing the kids being so happy."

Steven Niette, assistent director of university recruiting for the Louisiana Scholars' College, attended Double Reed Day.

"Events like Double Reed Day are among the best NSU recruiting tools," he commented. "They allow students to see NSU from the inside."

Niette has played violin since the fifth grade and with the NSU orchestra while attending high school at the Louisiana Schools for Maths and Sciences.

Niette hopes these events help inspire students to continue studying music. Niette noted the event is very unique.

"It's really cool hearing an orchestral piece performed only on double reeds," Niette said. "Music is the universal language and it connects them."

As a recruiter, he encourages students to continue their education in music. He also encourages them to apply for scholarship opportunities that are available and will remain unaffected if state budget cuts are approved, because most are private donations.



Guest artist Mark Ostoich visited NSU. *Photo from CCM*

In addition to his orchestral background, Ostoich has also served as the teacher of oboes at Oxford Oboe Camp for the past 16 years, Midwest Oboe Camp at Wittenburg University in Ohio, artist-teacher of oboe at the Advanced Double Reed Institute in Texas and the Sewanee Summer Music Center. He has been professor of oboe at Louisiana State University, University of Florida, University of Texas and Ohio University.

Ostoich served as artist-faculty of the CCM-Spoleto Festival in Spoleto, Italy, CCM's Grandin Festival, the Lucca Festival and Opera Theatre of Lucca, Italy.

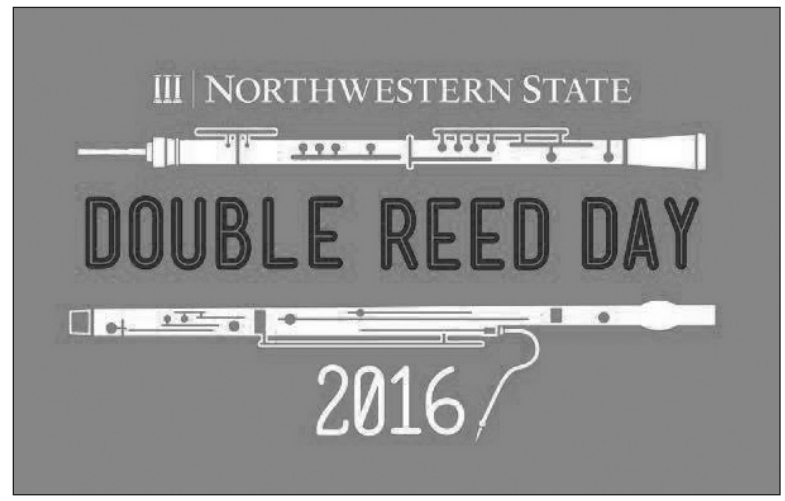
Ostoich performs and tours regularly with the Trio Cayenne, along with Steven Cohen of Northwestern University, clarinetist, and William Ludwig of Indiana University, bassoonist. He is also a member of the Sewanee Wind Quintet.

Ostoich has held principal oboe positions of the Santa Fe Opera, the Jacksonville Symphony for 12 seasons, the Baton Rouge Symphony for 13 seasons and the Louisiana Philharmonic in New Orleans. He has performed second oboe positions of the New York Philharmonic, the Cleveland Orchestra and associate principal of the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra.

Ostoich also performs with the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, Cincinnati Chamber Orchestra, Cincinnati Ballet Columbus Symphony, Columbus ProMusica and Dayton Philharmonic.



NSU faculty Leah Forsyth performs a duet with her former teacher, Dr. Mark Ostoich. *Photo by Sheila Humphrey*



Logo on the Double Reed Day 2016 T-shirts given to participants and volunteers. *Graphic by Beth Mann*

Meet Ms. Felecia: NSU support staff talks about family, daily life

Airrol Angelle
Staff Writer

An important member of the NSU family is Felecia McMillan. McMillan and her husband, Eugene Where, have five sons ages 3, 14, 16, 18 and 20. If you want to hear a good story, ask her about her sons.

Whether she is telling a story about the youngest hiding his vegetables, the two teenagers fighting over clothes or the oldest resisting to learn how to cook, you can see in her eyes how much she loves them.

McMillan is currently very proud of her 18-year-old son, who will be leaving soon to join the U.S. Army. She told me what she will miss the most, for the four months he will be away for basic training, is his sense of humor. Right now she is anticipating all the letters they will send back and forth to each other because she does not want to make him feel guilty by appearing too upset before he leaves.



McMillan is excited about those letters because reading is her favorite pastime. When asked about what she enjoys most at NSU, she instantly replied: "Reading The Current Sauce every Wednesday during my break." She is very interested in what NSU students do outside of class.

Her second favorite pastime is meeting new people with whom she can converse. She said that reading The Current Sauce to find out what is going on around campus is the best way to discover new people to talk to with similar interests.

Every weekday, besides Wednesday, McMillan likes to spend her break watching the LSMSA kids play four square. She says it reminds her of a time in her life when she "could just play ball instead of pay bills."

A funny story she likes to tell about the LSMSA four square players is the time they got their ball stuck in a tree and asked her for help. At first, she gave them a can of furniture polish to throw at the ball to knock it out of the tree, which got stuck in the tree, too.

Then she gave them a broom to poke the ball and the polish out of the tree. Instead, they threw the broom at the ball and got it stuck in the tree also. Finally, she went out with another broom to "show all those smart kids how to use it."





(Left) New members of Phi Mu Fraternity include Theresa Sharp, Mackenzie Lee, Rici McDonald, Cierra Stephens, Kayli Morvan, Madison Harris, Rylea Sepulvado and Caroline Youngblood. *Photo by Emilie King*

(Right) New members of Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority are Haylee Dye, Emily Heard,Anna Waxley, August Brinkmeier,Linzey Evans, Taylor Young, Rebekah Aultman and Karoline Guidry. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

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Demon style: Unnaturally dyed locks trending in mainstream culture

Hannah Richardson
Photographer

One of the most outlandish trends among millennials is having unnaturally-colored hair, such as blue, green or purple. Colorful hair has been around for a while now, dating back to punk fashion in the '70s , but the trend has been growing in mainstream culture for the last few years. Having colorful hair may look abnormal, but it definitely catches the eye.

It was easy to spot Mary Reed with her blue hair. She told me this color was left over from previous dye and that the next color she's going for is silver. Silver or gray hair is a quickly growing trend, known as the "granny" trend. Another color trend is pastel, which is a softer, delicate shade of more saturated colors, such as pink, blue or purple.

To maintain her hair color, Reed uses shampoos and conditioners with sulfate, along with argan oil. Argan oil protects hair from damaging coloring products.

If you're interested in having these exciting locks, you could do the color job yourself, but be sure to follow the box instructions and take steps to avoid damage. Going to a salon is recommended. A hair color specialist will know what is safe to use, since box dyes often contain harsh chemicals.

This look may seem alternative, but anybody can pull it off with the right attitude: confidence. If you want to put some more color into your appearance, hair color can be one of the many things to contribute to your personal style.



Mary Reed, junior, pulls off the dark blue shade of her hair. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*





(Left) Dr. Julie Kane performs with a jazz band at The Gold Mine Saloon in the New Orleans French Quarter. (Right) Kane reads her work at Grinnell University. Both events took place in 2013. In 2016 Kane plans to attend two writing conferences. *Photos submitted by Julie Kane*

Kane reflects on path of poetry

Dr. Julie Kane reflects on a lifetime of writing that began at the age of seven. With four books of poetry, work published in over 60 anthologies, two chapbooks, a co-authored creative fiction piece and the coveted Louisiana Poet Laureate position for two years in a row, Kane has much to think about.

Meg Denny
News Editor

When she is not advising Argus, working with the spoken word organization, teaching classes or judging literature contests, Dr. Julie Kane somehow finds time to maintain a prolific poetry career.

The former Louisiana Poet Laureate (2011-2013) has four published poetry books, two chapbooks, work in over 60 anthologies and a co-authored creative fiction piece to her name.

In 2016, Kane's work is upcoming in multiple anthologies, including one about dolls and one themed around breasts and bras. Additionally, Kane's poetry will appear in "Best American Poetry," an anthology Kane previously assigned to her students.

"To be published in Best American Poetry is really, really exciting; it was such a shock...that just floored me," Kane said. Kane started to write at just 7 years of age, but fully entered the poetry scene her freshman year at Cornell University.

"I really always loved poetry; there was just something really, really magnetic about it to me even when I was little," she said. Her time at Cornell fostered her confidence and determination to write.

In the beginning, Kane felt shy at the school's weekly poetry readings, often hiding in the back or outside the door. "I didn't even feel worthy enough to enter the room," she said.

Then, around her sophomore year, Kane mustered up the courage to read an original poem. She received the coveted standing ovation from her peers.

"It was just a very exciting community to be a part of," Kane said, noting that many of the people she studied with went on to gain popularity in the writing community.

Kane attended Cornell at a time when only 10 or 15 poetics MFAs existed in America's schooling; Cornell was one of the first to offer a poetics program.

Kane graduated from Cornell with a bachelor's degree in English, and then obtained her master's at Boston University, where she studied under the famous poet Anne Sexton the year she passed away.

After her schooling, Kane worked in Baton Rouge, La., for two years with "War on Poverty," writing grants to fight poverty in the city. For 17 years after that, the poet worked in New Orleans as a technical writer, all the while building up her poetry career.

After guest lecturing for multiple universities in the area, Kane began to feel the pull to go back to school, get her doctorate and teach.

"Universities had become the sort of refuges for poetry, and I really wanted to make poetry my central vision for life," Kane said. "I wanted to do what I loved doing."

She applied only to Louisiana State University and obtained her doctorate there in poetics and poetry writing. Then, NSU offered Kane a visiting professor job, with an understanding that she would only remain for a year and move on. This is Kane's 17th year here.

"I got here, and I liked it here, and they liked me here, so...I sort of fell into this job," Kane laughed. She received the honor of acting as Louisiana Poetry Laureate while at NSU, along with multiple awards and opportunities.

On Feb. 4, the Natchitoches Northwestern Symphony will perform "City of Lights," a work for orchestra and soprano with music by composer Kenneth Olsen and words by Julie Kane. This will be the second year of Olsen and Kane's collaboration, though she has worked with multiple musical composers throughout her career.



In addition to writing and teaching at NSU, Kane participates in writing conferences. In 2016 she will attend the West Chester University Poetry Conference in Pennsylvania from June 8-11 and Writing the Rockies Conference at Western Colorado State University from July 20-24. For more information about Kane, her work and future appearances visit www.juliekanepoet.com. Her twitter is @juliekanepoet. *Graphic by Hannah Fulton*

NS 'U' Voice

What are you going to spend your refund check on?

Photos by Clarisee Gaucel



Arleci Thomas
Freshman
Hospitality Management

"I'm going to spend my refund check on fixing my car."



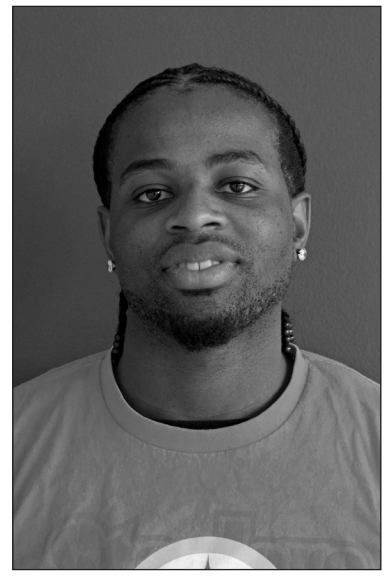
Daniella Martinez
Junior
Music Performance/Business Administration

"The money that I am going to get will be used to fix my instrument."



Cara Crawford
Senior
English

"I will save my refund check to travel."



Margues Washington
Senior
General Studies

"I was thinking about investing on new tires for my car and getting my windows tinted."



Kathleen Kerner
Senior
Musical Theatre/ Dance

"Most of it is going to be on rent and utilities since I take too many hours to have a job right now. The rest of it will hopefully be saved to pay off loans."

Not your grandfather's politics

Bria Williams
Staff Writer

I have a very consistent morning routine: I wake up, roll over, grab my phone and scroll through Snapchat, Facebook and Twitter apps until I am awake enough to get out of bed.

I read the articles that Cosmopolitan and Buzzfeed provide on the discover page of Snapchat, because they usually post a funny video that gives me a burst of energy in the morning. Cosmopolitan usually posts a few beauty tips, two or three GIFs about wine, one about relationships and at least one article about worldly issues related to women's rights.

Buzzfeed is a big advocate for the LGBT community. Sites like Cosmopolitan and Buzzfeed write to particular audiences, and they cater articles to appeal to the interests of their readers (so readers will keep reading). It's safe to assume that the targeted audience in this instance are Millennials.

Millennials are individuals born after 1980, who are more tech-savy than their parents. Bringing attention to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender relationships as well as women's rights regarding things like abortion.

These issues are important to a substantial population of Cosmopolitan and Buzzfeed readers, so of course they continue to write about them. When I check Facebook, my friends are sure to mention that they are #TeamBernieSanders on a post or two, while my other peers often repost articles that read something similar to "25 Reasons Why You Absolutely Should NOT Vote for Donald Trump."

I am just guessing here, but I believe Millennials are adapting a more liberal standpoint overall. More Millennials believe the following: Women should have access to birth control and abortion, same-sex marriage should be available for everyone, affirmative action should be implemented so that all races are represented in the workplace, more gun control laws should be enforced, America should support immigrants with education and healthcare and the church should be separate from the state.

Maybe since this generation has seen more kids being killed on the street than ever before, we believe in stricter gun control. Maybe being exposed to celebrities like Caitlyn Jenner has helped this generation deal with the transgender community differently.

This does not mean all Millennials agree with every liberal viewpoint, but my opinion is that more Millennials identify with this point of view, especially when compared to earlier generations. Our parents and grandparents are usually more conservative.

I can imagine my grandpa shaking his head at the mention of some liberal viewpoints. Granted, even if my grandpa was still alive, I doubt he'd vote for Donald Trump, but I do believe he would lean towards a conservative candidate when it came time to vote. The conservative ideologies of our grandparents trickled down to our parents, but our generation is notably different. There are conservative sects of the Millennial generation, but liberal sects are growing rapidly as well.

In the end, it does not matter if every other person in the world is a liberal or conservative. As an individual, you should decide what you believe and stand firmly in that.



Photo by Creative Commons

Leonardo Who?

Jade Williams
Staff Writer

Maybe all the excitement involving the awarding of DiCaprio's Oscar is meant to blind us of the greater issue.

One might ask, "Why hasn't Leonardo DiCaprio won an Oscar, yet?" And I'll say, "Who the hell cares?" Judging from the few movies that I have seen him star in, DiCaprio appears to be a pretty decent actor.

Being as though I do not frequently view the Oscar's Award Show, I do not know who has won year after year in DiCaprio's place. I do, however, know that taste varies.

It has been said time and time again that DiCaprio should win the award, basically because he is a great actor and tries hard. Be that as it may, everyone that was or wasn't nominated has worked hard and is probably in a sense, a great actor as well.

DiCaprio is currently "The Little Engine that Could," but hasn't. This entire debate about whether he should or should not have an Oscar diverts from a more momentous issue. With the help of some research, I learned that this has been the second year in a row where no actors of color were nominated for an Oscar award. Celebrities have, since then, publicly reacted and have even opted to boycott the show as a whole!

Looking back on the Oscars' preceding years, plenty of African-Americans have been nominated for, and won, an Oscar. The problem with this is that most of the roles that earned them this award were a bit negative. Examples of this would be Halle Berry winning Best Actress award for her role in "Monster's Ball" in 2001, or Mo'Nique winning Best Supporting Actress in 2009 for her role in the film "Precious."

Although there are a few instances that contradict this theory, such as Jennifer Hudson being awarded Best Supporting Actress in the movie "Dreamgirls" in 2006, it seems that hard work only goes noticed for roles that are considered shameful in the real world.

On top of boycotting the show as a whole, it has been suggested to create an awards show specifically for black actors. My concern is the significance of this. Yes, I understand that we as people want to be recognized for our work, but that only creates a higher disdain towards another group of people.

Grammy host, LL Cool J was quoted as saying, "Don't get bitter, get better. There is room for improvement, but let's just put the work in. If the work is good enough, is great enough, and there is enough of it, the door gets kicked in."

DiCaprio's work, in my opinion, will eventually be recognized, but until then let's focus on recognizing the underdogs.

I want to be the girl with the most cake

Joshua Fontenot
Staff Writer

"Comparison is the thief of joy"
-Theodore Roosevelt

We all have insecurities and triggers that send us crying in the corner. Whether it be our talents, appearance or even success, we all have a weak spot that bruises easily.

In the day and age of social media, these triggers and insecurities have found a breeding ground in which to run rampant.

Recently, I found myself scrolling through an internet acquaintance's Instagram feed. Picture after picture, I gawked over how attractive they were, how nice their clothes were and their lifestyle. Then tragedy struck. I started comparing myself to them.

In that moment I felt my self-esteem sink quicker than the Titanic.

Suddenly they weren't just some person I knew on the Internet; instead, they became an example for everything that I was not. Every picture held something I did not possess, and it made me feel like the scum of the earth.

Sure these thoughts were irrational, but they stunned my psyche so hard that logic flew out the window.

After a few minutes of sulking and whining to a friend, some much-needed sense was bashed into my head, and I realized how ridiculous I sounded. I just wanted to be the girl with the most cake!

After all, I have a strong presence on the site as well, and my ego is often nourished, so why was I telling myself I wasn't good enough? I had to take a step back and weigh the facts.

Social media has allowed us to easily manipulate what others view as our own reality just by a few clicks. Sure that girl's eyeliner might be winged so hard it could pop a balloon, but her life could be burning down around her.

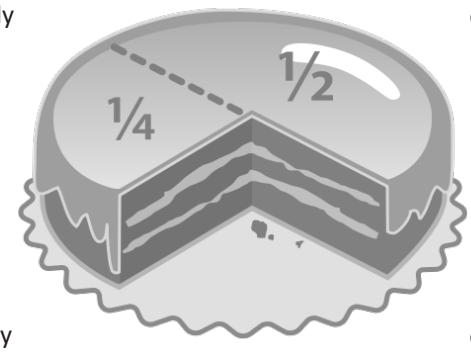


Photo by Creative Commons

The bottom line is this: People show you what they want you to see on social media!

That person on your screen is probably just as insecure as you when they are scrolling through their feeds. They definitely have bad hair days and have to go to class in sweatpants because they overslept. Hell, they might only look so good because they have mastered their angles and lighting.

Whatever the case may be, we have to stop comparing ourselves to others and start looking at what we have to offer ourselves. Because the reality is, if we do not realize our worth, we cannot flourish.

So, the next time you are scrolling through social media and see someone you admire, acknowledge them and move on. Another person's accomplishments do not diminish yours!

If you are feeling triggered, put down your phone and do something that makes you feel confident in yourself and your abilities. You can even take the envious energy and use it as a form of positive self-reflection. Try asking yourself "Why am I so triggered by this?" or " What could I do (within reach) to improve myself?"

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The Lady Demons celebrated after a huge win last year. They ended the season 36-18 (22-3) in Southland Conference. Their season ended on a hard note as they fall 4-2 to the Bears of Central Arkansas during the Southland Conference Tournament. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Softball looks to bounce back after stellar season

Reginald Williams
Sports Writer

As the old saying goes, it's not how you start; it's how you finish. This saying describes the 2015 version of the Lady Demon softball team.

After two consecutive Southland Conference titles and NCAA tournament births in 2013 and 2014, the 2015 team fell short in the conference tournament of making it a three-peat of championships.

Even after compiling a 36-18 record, it wasn't enough to earn the national tournament seed. Now the 2016 team, with last season in its rearview mirror, looks to avenge that loss and get back on top as the best in the conference.

Bolstered by a large signing class, the Lady Demons are in hopes that variety in their lineup will be exactly what the doctor ordered to get back to where they want to be.

It will all start with a challenging, non-conference schedule where NSU will play 10 games against seven teams that appeared in the NCAA tournament. This will be a part of a 50-game slate for this season.

"We try to have a tough non-conference schedule every year, and it's worked out well in the last few years," head coach Donald Pickett said.

"We continue to strengthen our schedule every year, and we've done it again this year."

Three tournaments highlight NSU's non-conference schedule. The Lady Demons begin their season at Texas State's Centurylink Classic on Feb. 12-14, when they will play DePaul twice, Oklahoma State, Texas State and Abilene Christian (non-conference contest).

Baylor's Getterman Classic is NSU's second tournament on Feb. 19-21, where the Lady Demons will face Baylor, Liberty and North Texas.

"All three tournaments feature tough games," Pickett said.

"We hope that by playing those games, it slows the game down for us and prepares us for conference."

The Lady Demons are hoping that the tough schedule they have slated for the season will have them prepared for yet another conference title, and hopefully a long NCAA tournament run.

Ticket Info

The Northwestern State ticket office is offering a pair of combination packages for baseball and softball, which feature a combined 47 games at Brown-Stroud Field and the Lady Demon Diamond, home of the defending Southland Conference regular-season champions.

The $300 All Access Combo Pack includes chairback seating for all 2016 home baseball and softball games and includes access to the softball BOM Outfield Club hospitality area.

In addition, there is a $50 Fork 'Em Flex Pack offer that includes 10 general admission tickets.



Sophomore outfielder Sidney Salmans looked focused as she stepped up to the plate during offseason practice. She started all 54 games last season. *Photo by Clarisse Gaucel*

Demons look to build momentum

Jacob Hicks
Sports Editor

On Saturday, Jan. 30, the Northwestern State University men's basketball team will look to get back on track when it starts a three-game home stand, starting with the Southeastern Lions in Prather Coliseum.

This game will see both teams trying to get some momentum going into the second half of the season, with each team only having six wins between them.

Northwestern, at 3-12, has struggled to say the least, since Jalen West went out with a torn ACL in his left knee in the season opener loss to Ole Miss. Ever since then, it has been all downhill for the Demons. They have lost 11 games down the stretch, with their only wins coming against Louisiana College, Missouri Valley and Centenary College.

The Demons will also look to get their first conference victory of the season, previously losing their past six games by an average of 14.

Their only close conference loss came against Lamar University in Beaumont, Texas, where the Demons only lost by four points, and lead at the end of the first half, 38-33. But Lamar caught fire in the second half, outscoring the Demons by nine points and grabbing five more rebounds, securing their win and continuing NSU's loss streak.

Southeastern has had similar struggles this year, having gone 3-15 for the season. The team started off its season slowly, winning one game in its first seven, with losses to Texas Christian University and Texas A&M, before finally getting its first win against Mississippi College. The Lions have only had one win in conference play, with that win coming against, coincidentally, Lamar, 98-70.

But if there were some good news to be had with this coming match up, it would be that the Demons have owned Southeastern for the past three years. NSU has won the past five games against the Lions, winning by an average of 14 points.

NSU Demons freshman center Ishmael Lane looks to have his second straight home double-double, with his previous one coming against Texas A&M – Corpus Christie, with 18 points and 11 rebounds in a losing effort. The Demons also had strong performances from Sabri Thompson, Zeek Woodley and Ta'Jon Welcome, with 17, 17 and 14 points consecutively.

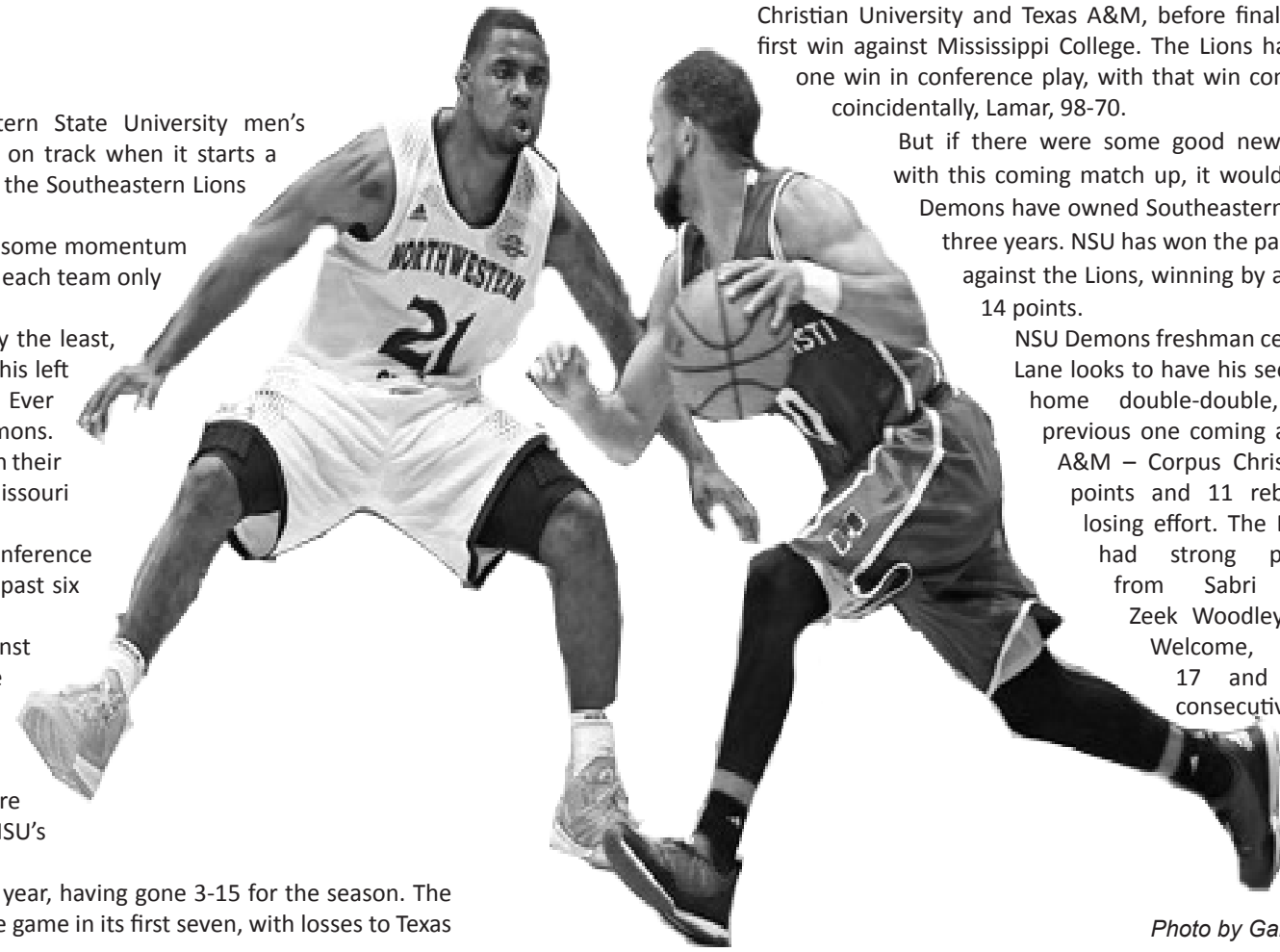


Photo by Gary Hardamon

Dr. Henderson makes second radio debut as Demons hosts Bears tonight

Sports Information Directory

If there is something Dr. Jim Henderson knows – aside from university administration – it is basketball.

As the son of Shreveport Fair Park High School state champion basketball coach Clem Henderson, the second-year Northwestern State president will again combine his twin passions of basketball and NSU as he joins Tony Taglavore on the Demon Sports Network radio broadcast of Wednesday night's game against Central Arkansas. Tipoff is set for 6:30 p.m. inside Prather Coliseum.

A little less than a year ago, Henderson made his radio debut alongside Taglavore, calling the action between Northwestern State and Stephen F. Austin.

Henderson made quite the impression despite NSU falling 69-61 to rival SFA.

"I'd never have guessed he'd never done it before," Taglavore said after the game. "He was fantastic. He knows the game and was able to pass along real insight quickly and at the right times. I invited him back."

Henderson accepted the invitation and returns to the roots set forth by his father and carried on by his daughter, Reagan, who won a state championship at Shreveport's Loyola College Prep.

Henderson's nerves should be settled even more after having turned in a smooth debut a year ago, which should allow his knowledge and passion to spill out over the airwaves.

"I could not be more excited about providing color commentary on Wednesday's game," Henderson said. "Working with Tony allows me to keep my NSU journalism degree current. Plus, it is a thrill to talk about the Lady Demon basketball program Brooke and Scott Stoehr are building at Northwestern State."

Henderson's appreciation for the chance to put his degree to use at the university he now shepherds is matched by Brooke Stoehr's gratitude for Henderson's selflessness with his time.

"I said this last year, I don't think there's any other Division I president in the nation that's doing that," she said. "No. 1, it makes us feel good from a department standpoint that he has an emphasis on athletics and its importance to the university and what it provides from a recruiting standpoint, not only for student-athletes but for regular students and the university's enrollment. When he's doing it for women's basketball, it shows his love and passion for our sport. As a coach of that sport and the mother of a daughter, I appreciate that. It shows someone in leadership is taking time to acknowledge what our student-athletes are doing.

"We know he is very proud of our program and what our student-athletes represent and what they do in the classroom and on our campus."

Wednesday's game will air on the Demon Sports Network, flagshipped by 100.7 FM KZBL in Natchitoches and including 92.1 FM KSYR in Shreveport and 103.1 FM in Leesville and Many. Taglavore will be on the air at 6:15 with the pregame show.

The Northwestern State women's basketball team has not played at home in two weeks.

"It's good to be back home," said fourth-year co-head coach Brooke Stoehr, whose team last played in Prather on Jan. 13, a 60-43 win against Texas A&M-Corpus Christi.

"Our kids are excited to be playing a couple of home games this week. We've had a rough (stretch of) five of six on the road. That wears on you. It's not an excuse, but it wears on you. We're excited to be back on our home court and in front of our fans."

The matchup between second-place UCA (16-2, 6-1) and third-place Northwestern State (11-8, 5-3) takes place on Ladies' Night at Prather Coliseum.

There will be a $5 cover before 7 p.m. and a pre-game reception in the N-Club Room with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres provided by Murphy's Catering. Also, there will be a raffle giveaway for all ladies in attendance with the grand prize being a $50 spa package.

While fun is on the menu away from the court, both NSU and UCA will face a challenge in each other's defenses in a matchup of similar programs.

"There's no better way to get ready for a game than when the team you're playing is ranked very high in the standings, has a really good record and will challenge you in a lot of ways," Stoehr said. "They're a very tough defensive team. We're going to have to do a great job of handling their defense and being able to execute and find ways to score."

Northwestern State stands second in conference games, allowing 56.2 points per game.

HIV/AIDS Awareness

Know Your Status

Continued from front

Lawrence later added lightly to her presentation, "We don't want to call anyone out, we just want to keep everyone safe." Lawrence hopes to bring testing to campus soon.

While Health Services here on campus already tests for chlamydia and gonorrhea, they do not yet test for HIV/AIDS. Lawrence is passionate about this cause and openly talked about how she lost her mother to AIDS when she was 10-years-old. Lawrence also urges women to get tested and practice safe sex as well, because they too can be infected.

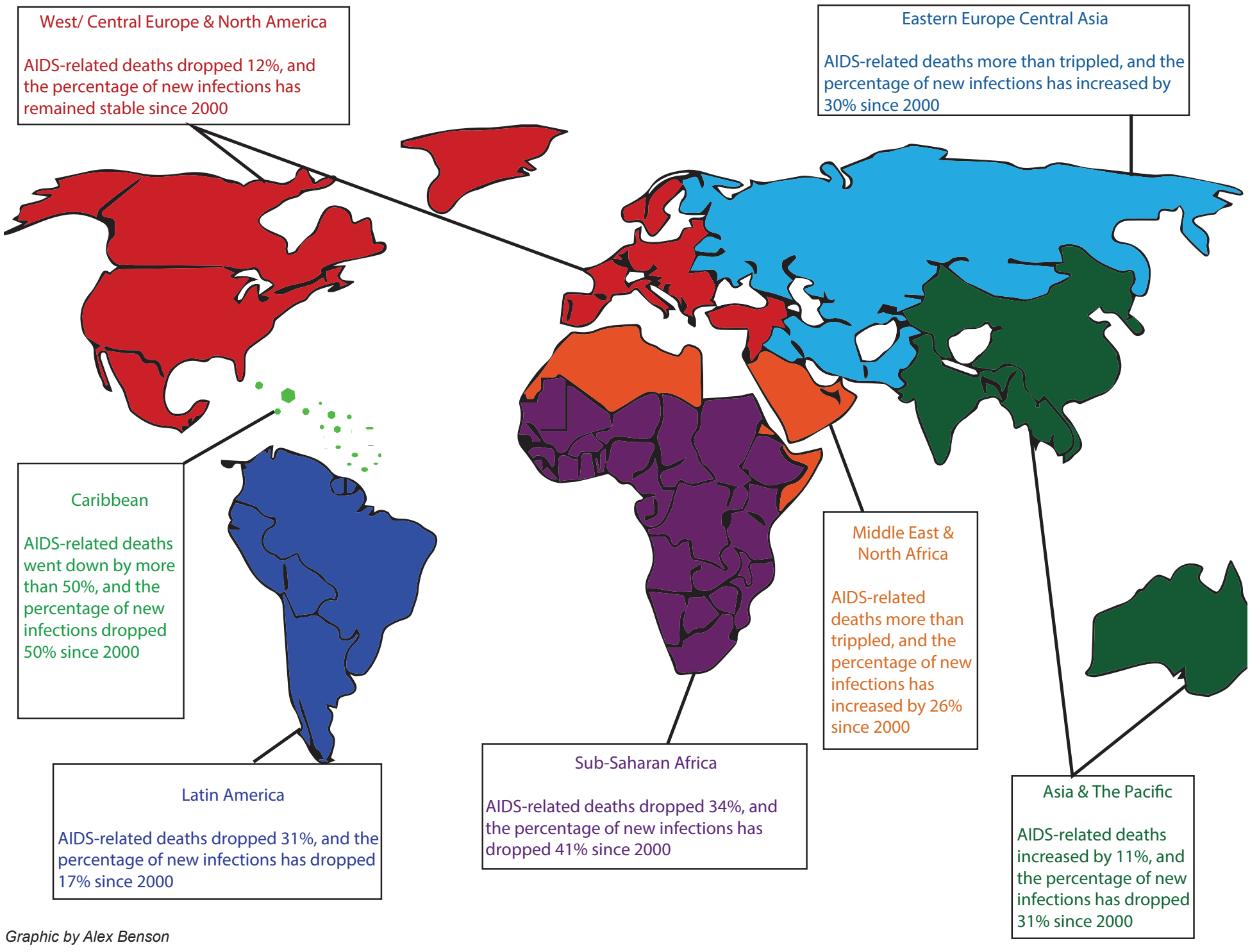
HIV and AIDS are two different diseases. HIV is the Human Immunodeficiency Virus, which is the first of four stages to the virus, with AIDS, Auto Immune Deficiency Syndrome, being the last.

During the first stage, T-Cells, which are crucial to your immune system, are attacked by the HIV virus. However, during the final stage, the virus destroys the person's immune system, leaving them sick and dying. Representatives from The Philadelphia Center of Shreveport backed all of Lawrence's research and findings. TPC offers tests for HIV, answers questions about HIV/AIDS, offers counseling to anyone who needs it and helps with treatment if needed. TPC uses the Determine test, which is a 20-minute-4th-generation test. The test only pricks the finger, similar to testing a persons blood sugar, and has results in only 20 minutes.

TPC also has a Wellness Center in Shreveport that tests for chlamydia, gonorrhea, HIV/AIDS and syphilis. They also just received an MTC, a Mobile Testing Center, that performs the same tests as the Wellness Center.

"The disease cannot be spread through saliva," Virgina Claire, from TPC, said. "There is not a high enough amount of the virus in saliva to get a person sick, but through other bodily fluids." While there is not a cure for HIV/AIDS, there is a drug called PrEP, where 98 percent of the partners with the virus will not infect the other partner. This is a huge step for people with the virus. Lawrence wants to make sure that students know their status and hopes that she can encourage everyone to get tested.

#KnowYourStatus



Graphic by Alex Benson

Estimated HIV/AIDS statistics around the world as of 2014

Student Cody Nicole Goodrich injured in double-shooting slowly begins the recovery process Page 2

Students vote Beyoncé as their 'queen,' writer reflects on the dangers of queendom and 'flawless' culture Page 5



THE CURRENT SAUCE



The current faculty art exhibit in Hanchey Gallery features many different sculptures, paintings, photographs and other mediums. *Photo by Alec Horton*

SPORTS

'You coach like a girl'

Female coach makes NFL history

Cassandra Briscoe
Writer & Copy Editor

The Buffalo Bills have officially changed the game forever. On Jan. 21, they announced the addition of Kathryn Smith to their coaching staff.

Smith became the first female full-time coach in the National Football Leauge's history that day, which is news that has received both positive and negative feedback.

The NFL, which is a male-dominated sport and business, will see a small change next season. A woman on the sidelines, sporting the colors blue and red, wearing headphones and carrying a clipboard.

The players, who have played football for a majority of their lives, have grown accustomed to having male coaches in charge. It promises to be a challenging situation for Smith, but she seems to be ready.

"It's been pretty extraordinary, the reaction, and I realize that it's ground-breaking," Smith said. "I think very quickly there are going to be many other women in the league."

Having a woman on the sideline will provide a different perspective to the coaches and players. Smith has the ability to change the game for all women, and with that comes a lot of pressure, which she is familiar with.

"There are so many other females with very important roles in football organizations, whether it's in administration, athletic trainers, public relations, so many departments have women," Smith said. "So yes, I might be the first coach, but I'm not the only woman in the building or dealing with the coach or players on a daily basis. So that's how I'm looking at it."

Continued on page 8

CRIME

Fatal Stabbing



Student murdered at boat launch, arrests still ongoing

Above: 18-year-old Dylan Poche

Photo retrieved from victim's Facebook

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

Freshman award-winning angler Dylan Poche, 18, was tragically murdered Saturday night at a Sibley Lake boat launch after enduring a fatal stab wound to the chest.

Sheriff Victor Jones announced at a press conference on Tuesday that the stabbing was suspected to be the climax of an ongoing feud between Poche and the murder suspect. The feud started at a local business, continued on social media and ended with the fatal attack Saturday night.

The alleged murder weapon, identified as a pocket knife, was recovered Monday at the scene along with other material sent off to the crime lab for testing, according to chief investigator Greg Dunn. Shortly thereafter, deputies from the Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's Office arrested Andrew Jacob Wallace, 18, of the 4700 block of La. Hwy 3278, Natchitoches, La., on a second degree murder charge in connection with Poche's stabbing.

Additional evidence released at Tuesday's press conference tied two other individuals directly to the crime. They are accused of allegedly engaging in a fistic encounter and transporting the murder suspect, Wallace, to the murder scene before fleeing.

William Aaron Holman, 18, of the 100 block of Franklin Lane was charged with accessory after the fact to second degree murder and disturbing the peace by engaging in a fistic encounter.

Continued on page 2



Photo from Facebook

Victim begins road to recovery

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

The week following the tragic-double shooting that injured senior Cody Goodrich has been a bumpy but uphill battle.

Updates posted consistently on social media by national Kappa Phi sponsor, Karen Dubois, and first-hand updates coming from Lorie Lasseter Foltz show steady progress for the 30-year-old victim.

The left and right sides of her body are now responsive, her eyes have been open for prolonged periods of time and she responds to statements made by doctors and family members, according to these updates. She was also moved to regular ICU Tuesday.

As of Tuesday, she rated an 11 on the Glasgow Coma Scale, which rates the level of consciousness following a traumatic brain injury. The GCS rates three-eight as severe, nine-12 as moderate and 13-15 as mild, so Goodrich now falls in the moderate category, a welcomed improvement from her previous rating of six.

Goodrich is a member of Kappa Phi Christian fraternity on campus, and her sisters have pitched in to host various prayer vigils and hospital visits this past week. Other Kappa Phi chapters are also chipping into help offset the cost of Goodrich's medical bills with a silent auction.

Students also have the ability to donate through Giveforward to help cover her medical bills, since her family will have to foot the bill without medical insurance. Students may also donate toward Goodrich's non-medical expenses through GoFundMe.

Police department offers self-defense class for women 13 and up in Natchitoches community

Joshua Fontenot
Social Media Coordinator

Sergeant Jeff Townson, violent crimes investigator for the Natchitoches Police Department, cannot stress the importance of self-defense enough.

Townson is teaching a women's self defense class every Tuesday for three weeks along with his colleague, Sergeant Emily Myrick.

"Several years ago, the NPD taught this class, and it fell to the way side," Townson said.

Townson teaches self-defense skills for the NPD, so he is more than qualified. Recently, the NPD sent Townson to Williamsburg, Vt., to receive his self-defense instructor license for the class so that he could properly develop this program for the women in the Natchitoches community. "There's never a situation where a woman should feel that she can't protect herself," Townson stated. During the three-day course, women will learn the proper techniques to exploit vulnerable areas on an attacker in different situations.

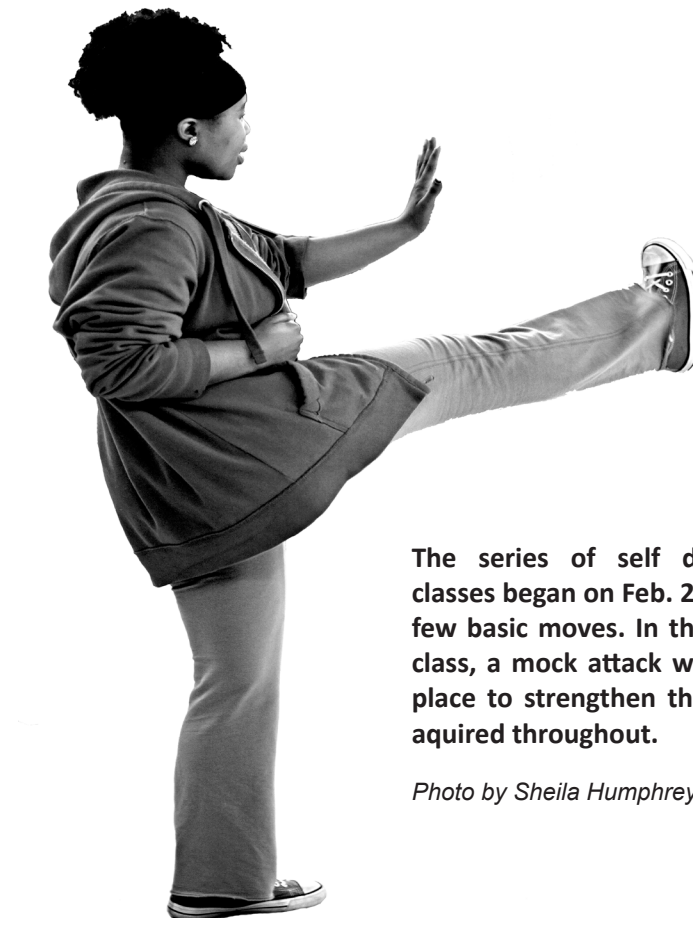
"When the time comes to fight and survive, we want to give these women the tools to do just that."

"Size does not always matter," Townson said. "When the time comes to fight and survive, we want to give these women the tools to do just that."

Townson also had some quick tips to offer up to ladies who feel unsafe in a situation. "Always be aware of your surroundings, and get out of an area immediately if you feel uneasy," he said. "911 is only three digits away."

He went on to stress that whether an individual feels a situation could be truly dangerous or just a false alarm, it is always better to be more safe than sorry. "As a law enforcement officer, I would much rather respond to a false alarm than to a situation that ended badly because they thought it wasn't serious," Townson explained.

At the end of the course, the instructors will suit up in protective gear and act as if they are an attacker. "I give them a real-life scenario," Townson said. "I'm going to give them a reason to want to get out of the situation."



The series of self defense classes began on Feb. 2 with a few basic moves. In the third class, a mock attack will take place to strengthen the skills aquired throughout.

Photo by Sheila Humphrey

The sergeant urges women to come out to the class regardless of whether they feel confident in their abilities to take down an attacker or not.

"We have had women in their 80's attend these classes only wanting to watch the demonstrations, but in the end they decided they would try to execute them and did so successfully," he said.

The class will take place 6-9 p. m. on Feb. 2, 9 and 16 at the NPD training center located at 518 Bossier Street. Women 13 and up are allowed to attend, with a permission documentation for anyone under the age of 17. The course will cost women $20, a price well spent for peace of mind.

CRIME

Student killed in stabbing at Sibley Lake boat launch

Continued from Front

Kristine Gail Woodall, also 18, of the 100 block of Long Road, Winnfield, La., was charged with aggravated assault with a hammer and criminal obstruction of justice. All subjects are currently being held in the Natchitoches Parish Detention Center without bond.

The launch in the Oak Grove community near Natchitoches is a popular gathering spot for young people and is already heavily policed, Jones said. He believes that a culture of contacting authorities before feuds get out of hand will be the most effective way to guard against a recurrence.

Other arrests involving an additional altercation that occurred simultaneously are expected, according to a KSLA article.

Poche's uncle Keith Poche, a well-known pro-bass angler, created a memorial fund on his website in lieu of flowers to cover funeral costs.

In a Bass Master article released Monday, Keith Poche said another person on the scene was able to wreck the murder suspect's car with his and restrain him until authorities arrived on the scene.

Dylan Poche had just taken home fourth place in a tournament on Toledo Bend Lake and was registered for the Carhartt Bassmaster College Series Central Regional this month. He was also a college angler at Northwestern State University with a promising future in the sport.

"He was enjoying some success and showed real resolve to build a career out of fishing," Keith Poche said, as quoted by the Bass Master article. "Watching him grow up, it was obvious he had a natural talent for reading the water and finding the right fish. He fished tournaments in high school and college, and team tournaments on a regular basis — I mean, all he did was fish, he loved it.

"I have no doubt that he would have eventually made it to the highest level of competition. He had that kind of talent. Dylan grew up fishing and was very passionate about his time on the water, which combined with his excellent marks in school, made his determination clear to me. I really wish we were talking about him winning a major tournament, and not this..."





Plywood covers the Watson Memorial Library in preperation for a new coffee shop set to open in late March. *Photos by Alec Horton*

Café DeMon construction begins

Kayla Ryan
Distribution Manager

In a Current Sauce article last semester, Sodexo told us to be expecting the Starbucks lounge and coffee experience in Watson Library come the start of spring semester.

But the visible plywood, closed off parking and many construction workers running to and fro on the east side of Watson Library prove this prediction a bit premature. In fact, production only actually started this past week.

"We ran into a couple of delays due to the holidays," project manager Jennifer Kelly said. "We are on track and moving forward."

Kelly said the opening date is uncertain, though construction may take a little while since they are still ordering materials and working to get city approvals finalized.

"We are hoping for a late March opening," Kelly said. "It could be earlier, could be later depending on what we find as we demo the area."

Café DeMon is currently accepting applications. Students may apply online or contact retail manager Ronnie Moseley at ronnie.mosley@sodexo.com.

Café DeMon, cleverly named to sound like the famous Café Du Monde in New Orleans, will be a Starbucks coffee shop for students to enjoy while they hack away at study hours. Students will also be able to use Demon dollars at the coffee shop.

This location will be part of the "We Proudly Serve" program, which allows businesses to buy their coffee beans from Starbucks while having the freedom to modify their menu to serve local products.

If the stars align and the campus coffee shop is staffed and ready by March, many long-deprived seniors will leave happily-caffeinated alumni, which may bode well for the budget.

SGA minutes

Monday, Feb. 1

•Varnado Hall will now be housing for CAPA students; renovations will begin soon.

•The union bridge will be fixed soon.

•Brickway construction is almost complete.

•A potential speaker for Black History Month will be voted on next meeting. President of Dillard University, Walter Kimbrough, is the possible candidate.

•An Academic forum will be held on March 16. The purpose of the forum is to allow students to talk to faculty about new programs coming to the campus.

•The physical plant will begin working on bathrooms in Iberville.

Experts explain 'weird winter' from El Niño

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

Students are trading in their heavy jackets for lighter ones thanks to this year's El Niño, which has been anything but small. A total of 15 El Niños have occurred since 1950, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The 2015-2016 El Niño is one of the three strongest on record.

"Unless you are a modern-day Rip Van Winkle, you know that we're experiencing a major El Niño this year," Dr. Michael McPhaden, a researcher at the NOAA/Pacific Marine Environmental Laboratory said.

The classic signs of a major El Niño have been observable: droughts and out-of-control wildfires in Indonesia; deficient summer monsoon rainfalls; flooding in California, the Gulf States and Florida; a record tropical storm season in the Pacific and a quiet hurricane season in the Atlantic.

The El Niño weather anomaly is technically known as the Southern Oscillation, and it occurs every three to seven years. It is an unusual pattern of warm or cold seawater around the Eastern Pacific equator with a combination of trade winds. The fluctuation can either yield warmer waters producing an "El Niño," or colder waters producing a "La Niña."

McPhaden said a "monster" El Niño failed to occur in 2014. However, the warm seawater lingered until the beginning of the 2015 spring season, giving strength to the El Niño this year.

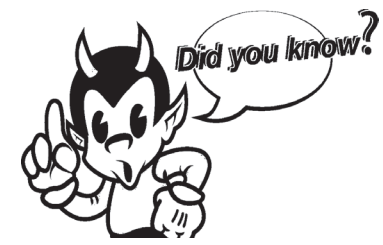


Photo from creative commons

This provided a higher starting point.

No recognizable trends of severe El Niños suggest a sign of rising global temperature or "global warming," according to a University Corporation of Atmospheric Research online report. Strong El Niños are traced back to the 1500s.

One noticeable pattern found by NOAA is the relationship between El Niños and La Niñas. Out of the 15 El Niños since 1950, nine of them produced a La Niña the following year after they cooled down. So, there is a 60 percent chance students will need to bundle up in their heavy jackets by this time next year.



The year-to-year fluctuation of the climate system begins to develop in the spring of the previous year, and it peaks around Christmas time. Fishermen off the west coast of South America were the first to notice the unusually warm water occurring and gave it the name, "El Niño," meaning "the boy child" representing baby Jesus. That name stuck throughout the years and is the most common name we use today.

Students debate Netflix VS. Hulu

Hannah Richardson
Writer & Photographer

Netflix and Hulu have both become staples in the life of most college students. They both have their benefits and some things we could live without. One correlation these streaming websites share is their monthly price of $7.99 and one month free trial.

First, let's take a look at what Hulu has to offer. Although Hulu has a monthly price of $7.99 with limited commercials, there is an option of paying $11.99 per month if you don't have the patience for commercials. Hulu is prompt at uploading episodes of TV shows the day after they air.

"One pro that Hulu has is that if I miss an episode of a show, I can just watch it the next day," senior Meisha Landry said. Hulu uploads show episodes the day following the original air date but it can be challenging for some to wait and catch up on an episode you missed. With TV shows kept up to date so regularly, Landry said she's on Hulu more often than watching scheduled TV.

Netflix on the other hand, is more focused on offering current movies to its viewers. Although Netflix offers the same monthly price as Hulu, it does not have any commercials or advertisements. Not only does Netflix have an extensive selection of films, the site also offers several TV series and has even created and produced a few successful series themselves.

"Netflix does have some great shows that they make themselves," sophomore Malik Victorian said. Emmy nominated TV series "Orange is the New Black" and "House of Cards" are just two of Netflix's original series.

Netflix does have its downs. Some of the movies they put on the site are only there temporarily. Whenever Netflix does upload TV shows, it goes up by the season and is usually put up an entire year after the season has aired its finale. Victorian says he prefers it this way, as he doesn't have to wait until the next episode is listed. Most Netflix users prefer to binge-watch, watching a TV series for hours at a time.

Freshman Caitlin O'Neal has both Netflix and Hulu. "Hulu is more up to date," she said. "Netflix is better for binge-watching. It's really about personal preference. On a good weekend, I might get in three hours of Netflix and maybe one or two hours on Hulu."

Both sites may have several cons, but each has something to bring to the table. Some students prefer to binge-watch a TV series and some prefer to watch one episode at a time. Some can't stand to sit through commercials, and others don't mind them so much. The "winner" of the two really depends on the viewers personal



The Press Box's bar side is completley full of students. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

New Natchitoches Nightlife

Jacob Farnsley
Copy Editor

The newest addition to the bar/club scene and apparent latest hang out spot here in Natchitoches is called the Press Box. The Press Box is a half bar, half club mix that has really drawn people in with its upbeat atmosphere and unique design.

The Press Box has a different feel to it than other bars or clubs in Natchitoches. The bar side is open for people to come hang out, drink and play pool.

"It's something new and it's smoke free," sophomore hospitality and tourism major Jenna Baldwin said. Its smoke free policy is unique in the Natchitoches area.

The club side is open for people who want to hang out, drink and enjoy the spacious dance floor.

"I think it's because they have a better DJ than the other places, and it's more songs that kids our age would enjoy," freshman general studies major Brooke Smith said. "Since it's new, everyone is flocking to it. It's cleaner, and the music is just generally better."

The bar side offers people the chance to just come sit and enjoy a drink. While the club side offers people the chance to come drink and dance the night away, without distracting from the people who just want to go to the bar.

"I think The Press Box has such a new quality to the nightlife in Natchitoches," alumna Sarah Jones said. "The bar is well-stocked and, the workers are fast and friendly." She added that "the setup is perfect, so that there is lots of room to sit and chat, go dancing or play a game of pool."

Overall, students seem to really enjoy the different experience that the Press Box has to offer. Whether they are dancing, playing pool or just having a good time, the reviews are nothing but positive.

The Press Box is open Thursday through Sunday, with the bar side opening at 5 p.m. and the club side opening at 10 p.m. The cost to get in is $5, and anyone under 18 is not allowed inside. Eventually, they will be open seven days a week. Once the weather starts to warm up, they will also introduce an outdoor patio with a tiki bar and outdoor seating, employee Logan Ohnoutka said.

The Press Box is the place to be right now, and it seems like it is going to stay that way for awhile.

'Grease Live,' a lightning review by an original 'Grease' admirer

Savannah Bassett
Staff Writer

Anytime someone thinks of "Grease" they probably imagine the perfect pair, John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John, singing "Summer Nights" and "You Are the One That I Want," the Pink Ladies slaying the school, and The T-Birds racing Grease Lightning. I know deep down all of this made me secretly want to be a Rydell Ranger.

When I heard that a remake was coming out and that it was going to be live, I was beyond excited. However, behind that excitement I had a little bit of doubt. I was afraid that the whole production would be a flop, like the live version of "The Sound of Music," starring Carrie Underwood that aired in 2013. In the end, I couldn't have been more mistaken.

Sunday evening, Jan. 31, FOX aired the premiere of "Grease Live." There were so many key factors that made the premiere a hit.

First off, the cast was incredibly diverse. Some of the stars that played highly accredited roles were Julianne Hough as Sandy, Keke Palmer as Marty, Aaron Tveit as Danny, Wendell Pierce as Coach Calhoun, and Mario Lopez as Vince Fontaine.

The fact that the production included multiple ethnicities was a big jump from the original version, in which every character was Caucasian. There were other recognizable actors and actresses in the cast from multiple areas of the arts. Singer Carly Rae Jepsen played Frenchy while Actress/ Singer Vanessa Hudgens played the infamous Rizzo.

The second thing that made the show had to be the staging. Every setting fit each scene perfectly, and the quality was outstanding. The show consisted of 21 different sets, two soundstages and the live audience. From the sleepover scene at Frenchy's, to the school dance/ dance contest, and the drive in movies, all were spot on. The live audience even added some pizzazz to the production. Even though I was at home viewing it, while stuffing my face with popcorn, having the audience on air made it seem like the viewer was there.

Lastly, it was refreshing that almost every person portraying an important character got ample performance time. Probably the top number of the night was Keke Palmer singing "Freddy My Love," a new addition to the musical's soundtrack. She shone like an absolute star, in a dazzling red sequin gown while The Pink Ladies dawned cute feminine military outfits. The number was theatrical and well put together. It occurred at a good time and didn't seem out of place.

After the show was over and about two bowls of popcorn later, I was speechless. I kept questioning if I had really just watched a successful remake of something. The answer was a solid "yes." The new and improved production was a hit. By adding new music and diversity, it spiced up the classic. As a devoted "Grease" fan, I would have to give "Grease Live" two thumbs up and some more. If you missed watching it Sunday night you can catch it through On Demand and Fox's app FOX NOW.

Beyoncé didn't mean for this to happen OPINION

Ashley Wolf
Multimedia Coordinator

"I woke up like this" is the mantra of a generation. It's the new age, and this is is the holy scripture of our new age religion.

Millennials meditate with their booties, twerking in unison to the confidence-building and life-affirming words of Beyoncé's "Flawless."

"You wake up, flawless.
Post up, flawless.
Ridin' round in it, flawless.
Flossin' on that, flawless."

We don't sit cross-legged, "OMing" with some zen music in the background. We find the serenity we need to face the world by screaming: "Bow down, bitches!" We twerk until the universe has granted us what we desire: queendom.

The surprise drop of Beyoncé's 2013 album Beyoncé caused mass hysteria. "Flawless" became an anthem. It was certain that Beyoncé wasn't just a queen of the distant celebrity world. She became our queen. We swore allegiance to her, and she gave us the courage to be fierce, independent women.

But the mantra of self-confidence has become a screaming match of self-entitlement. Out of this initially empowering queendom culture comes an extremist group of self-proclaimed queens, queens who are willing to do whatever it takes to be that "fierce bitch" that everyone knows.

They act as if they are appointed by God himself, causing mayhem at their own free will like the European kings and queens of the Renaissance days. They'd send you to the guillotine in a heartbeat, without questioning the morality of their actions. They are sovereign hoes, always in the right, and divinely appointed to ruin our lives and suffocate us with their egos.

Of these people, I ask, "Did you 'wake up' being a terrible person?"

This certainly isn't what Queen Bey intended. It's just another instance of extremists ruining everything for us. Queendom has turned into a frenzy of people obsessed with being "fierce." The world revolves around them, which gives them a right to be sassy and not take your crap.

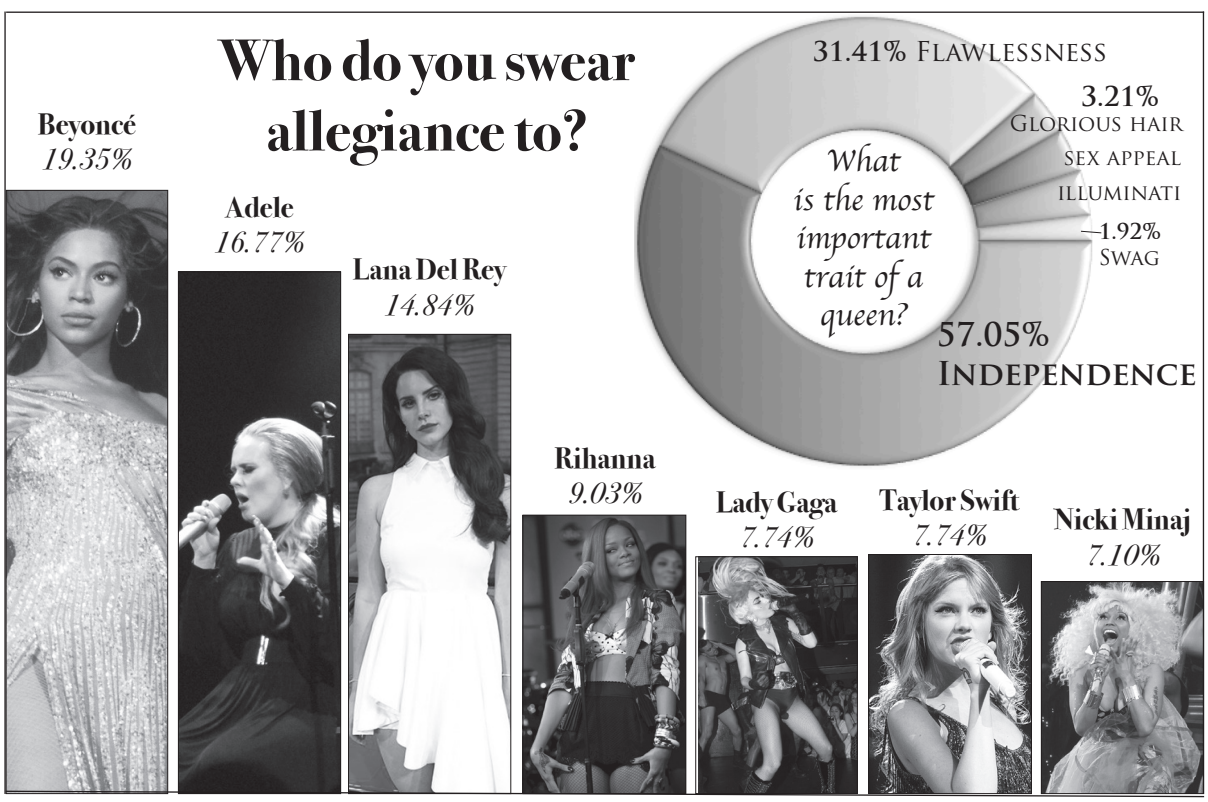
But what these extremists don't realize is that there is a difference between being sassy and being abusive. There is a difference between standing up for yourself and bull-dozing over everybody. And there is a big difference between owning who you are and belittling everyone else.

We must realize that no one wakes up flawless. We all come into the world, shriveled, ugly babies. We all will die someday. Everyone is a dumb human, and most things are out of our control. Crowning ourselves with arrogance will entitle us to nothing.

Beyoncé told us herself that "pretty hurts." Our ideas of perfection aren't attainable, and masquerading around like imperial royalty doesn't change that.

Believe it or not, Beyoncé is a human too. I bet she gets tired of everyone expecting her to be a flawless queen all of the time. She probably binge watches Netflix in her sweatpants just like the rest of us mere mortals. She probably gets mad when people leave her voicemails, and she has to listen to them. She might even have bad breath every once in a while.

Tomorrow when you wake up, note that you woke up with bed-head and drool on your pillow. You are a sloppy human, and it is your right. So own it.





Half of Wild Nation performing Thursday for the Brainy Acts Poetry Society's open mic night. *Photo by Bonny Bacoccini*

Trauma inspires poetry

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

He rolled his eyes back and started to rap. Dog tags hung around his neck and on top of his head sat a hat that read "Obey."

Prince AJ, the stage name for criminal justice major Albert Tuiel, was among a motley group of student rappers, singers and poets who gathered in the Cane River Room Thursday, Jan. 28, in front of a large audience, standing room only.

The audience had come to see the members of Brainy Acts Poetry Society and others perform at BAPS's first open mic night of the semester. The theme played on the acronym P.T.S.D., which they changed from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder to mean "Poetry to Stop Disorder."

BAPS president senior Matthew Mims said they chose this theme as part of this year's "Word War II" tribute, a sequel to its "Word War I" tribute held in 2012.

Mims said he hopes this semester's theme will encourage students to be open about their own conflicts. He hopes that poetry becomes a way to bring healing to their own personal battle wounds.

"It can be something that you can bring home from the war, something that you're dealing with, an internal conflict or an external war, all the things that you can possibly think about when you're going through a personal battle," he said. "It can be something you're battling internally, at NSU, at home, or in your dorm room. Anything that you want to bring light to and share that 'Hey, we are all fighting our own battles.'"

In his poem, Mims opened up about his struggle with not meeting family members' expectations and feeling alone. He compared his own loneliness to being on a blind date with his shadow.

"I'm telling the audience that I'm alone, that I'm frightened and I'm scared and have no one to talk to… feels like the only person I can talk to is my shadow, like a blind date," he said.

Although he touched on personal topics, Mims said he doesn't like to be completely clear in his poetry but, rather, to make the audience work a little in order to find his meaning.

"Poetry is something you've got to dig into," he said. "It's not always something that's just going to put itself out and be like, 'This is me. This how I am. This is real.' I like to kind of hide my words."

BAPS also brought in Calligraphy, a slam poet from New Orleans who spoke out on controversial topics such as abortion and homophobia and their effect on the lives of children and young adults.

The night got highly personal, with other performers speaking out about childhood trauma, coming of age and finding identity. Mims said the next Open Mic will be Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m. in the President's Room. It will bear a similar war-inspired theme, and he looks forward to seeing what students bring to the table regarding their own battles.

Chili cook-off grows, honors Johnny Antoon

An-gel Samuel
Opinions Editor

The Battle for the Paddle chili cook-off was a "success," according to many of the contestants and judges. More than 200 people came out and participated in the event.

The cook-off honored Johnny Maroun Antoon, 72, a life-long resident of Natchitoches, who passed away Wednesday Nov. 25, 2015, Thompson said.

Antoon's wife, Merele Antoon, said she was amazed by the outcome and was excited about all of the contestants and the money raised.

"The chili was outstanding, and I'm thankful for everyone that came out and slaved over a hot stove to donate money for a good cause," Antoon said.

Tori Thompson, athletics marketing associate, said The Battle for the Paddle Chili Cook-off has been an American Cancer Society/Natchitoches Relay for Life Fundraiser for a few years now.

There were 10 teams that competed from all over the area for first, second and third place. There was also a People's Choice Award given to the team that raised the most money in their jars.

The teams that competed in the cook-off were the Bank of Montgomery, Atmos Energy, City Bank Pit Crew, NSU Police, Sodexo, Natchitoches Regional Medical Center, Despicable Meats, The Meat Shack and Team Antoons.

Sodexo placed third, Bank of Montgomery placed second and the NSU Police placed first. The People's Choice Award went to Team Antoon because their jar raised more than $800 dollars. Gary Chambers, a great friend of Antoon's, was the one who cooked the chili for Team Antoon.

Donna McDonald, also a friend of Antoon, was a part of Team Antoon and said she was very pleased with the outcome. She said she knew Antoon would be proud.

John Caliste, director of community relations, was the chef behind the NSU Police's chili.

"I've tasted a few people's chili, and I think everyone did a fantastic job honestly," Caliste said. "This was perfect for everyone to meet as a public for a good cause, and I'm happy to be a part of it."

Senior Brett Stevenson, one of the workers for the Kappa Sigma table, said this year saw improvements to the cook-off tradition.

"I think we have a good turnout compared to last year," Stevenson said. "This year was more organized and was for a good cause, that's something new."

Stevenson said he was happy to be able to participate in this event along with his brothers to support a good cause.

Marissa McMickens, this years Miss Lady of the Bracelet, participated as a judge in this competition.

"I just ate so much chili, I didn't know if I could go on," McMickens said. "It's a lot of people here and from what I see it's a lot of people donating for a good cause."

Sophomore Taylor Henderson, a criminal justice major, said she was happy that the NSU Police won first place because she felt like they truly had the best chili.

"They had a nice, well-rounded flavor with a kick to it," Henderson said.

Junior Brielle Moore said she agreed with Henderson because the police's chili "tasted like they spent a lot of time on it."









(Clockwise from top, left) John Caliste from the Natchitoches Police table dishes out a spicy pepper-filled chili. The police department came in first place followed by the Bank of Montgomery with Sodexo coming in third. The People's Choice Award went to Team Antoon after collecting more than $800 in their jar. Cheerleaders Lakyn Ward, Charles Anderson Jr. and Miss Northwestern Lady of the Bracelet Marissa McMickens enjoy chili between basketball quaters.
Sean Baylor, Cathy Jacobs, Jason Rachal and Jeff Fuller represented the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center. Ms. Debra Thomas, representing Sodexo, hands out chili to hungry chili tasters.
Photos by Shelia Humphrey



Breigh Nesbitt loves plaid for the versatility.

Demon Style
Pretty in plaid

Hannah Richardson
Photographer

From grunge style to preppy fashion, plaid is one of the most popular patterns out there. The plaid pattern has a boyish charm to it, but it looks great on just about anybody.

When "The Dukes of Hazzard" character Daisy Duke knotted her plaid shirt above the waist in the late '70s, it became all the rage. Girls everywhere wanted to look like her, so they wore their shirts in the same fashion.

The '90s grunge fashion was centered around this pattern, but this certainly wasn't limited to those into the grungy look. In the 1995 movie "Clueless," Alicia Silverstone proved to the world that mainstream fashionistas could add the pattern to their wardrobes. Who could forget her character's debate uniform?

These days, plaid is associated with the hipster style even though so many other people wear the pattern. Sophomore Breigh Nesbitt loves plaid for its versatility.

"In the summertime, you can wear an open plaid shirt with a tank top underneath with a pair of shorts, and it's warm to wear in winter," she said.

I don't think plaid is going out of style anytime soon. It has survived centuries, it's comfortable year-around and I expect to see it worn by many in the future.

The specter department

New Media department faces move, renovations after separating from English department causes problems for students and faculty

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer

In the fall, students sighted them in Kyser Hall in their peripheral, turning a hallway corner or standing next to them in an elevator. Outside of communications class, tracking down these elusive professors was an exercise in investigative journalism on its own.

Since their separation from the English department on the third floor, the professors of the Department of New Media, Journalism, and Communications Arts were delayed in the move-in to their new second floor offices because of renovations. The renovations included adding two more offices, painting the walls and replacing the carpet flooring with new wooden floors.

To accommodate their lack of office space, these professors roamed the halls of Kyser in search of a place to conduct their work. Stephanie Masson, instructor and academic advisor, said she was one of the "lucky" ones because she was able to share an office with the yearbook editor in Room 225 when the renovation deadline was extended.

"I definitely learned how to make do with less, and my rolling bag got bigger," Masson said.

Other instructors, like Dr. Jon Croghan, settled on conducting their work in a shared space. The Communications Lab in Room 337 served as a temporary work environment for several professors.

Kelsey Newman, a student worker in the lab, said it was weird at first to see students and teachers working on assignments at the same time, but she did not mind "bunking" with them. She closed-off the lab to students whenever the teachers needed to work on grading.

To maintain access to her students, Masson said she gave her students information about her temporary office location while urging them to email her to schedule appointments and give directions. She also arrived earlier and stayed later after classes to answer questions.

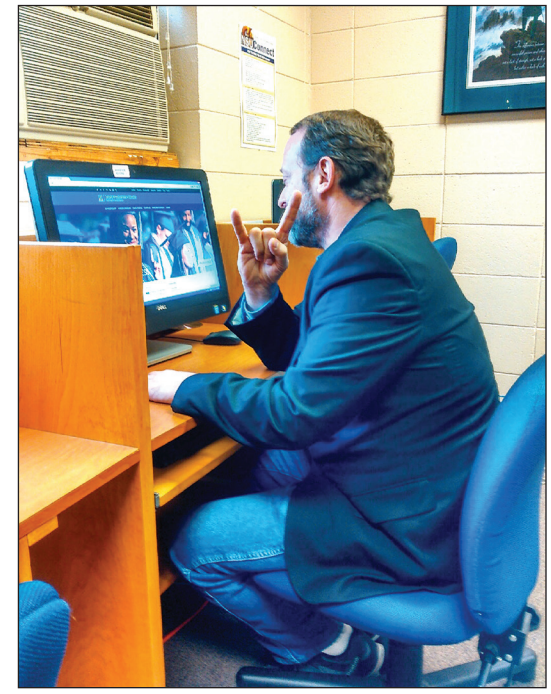
Croghan directed his students to the communications lab to meet with him and receive advising. His students came to visit him often and, though locating him was not the easiest task, they tracked him down.

"The one thing I was really impressed with was the response from the students," Croghan said. "Most would probably get mad and give up once they couldn't find their teachers, but they persisted throughout this transition."

Masson said the location on the second floor helps "centralize" the department in Kyser Hall. Instead of moving between floors to locate advisors and instructors, students can find student media, instructor offices, the department secretary and the department head all on the same floor.

On Jan. 11, the renovations of the department in Suite 239 finished and the move-in process has already begun. The department's Administrative Assistant Brandy Elliot said one instructor, Dr. John Foster, is already settled in his new work space.

"While the renovations lasted longer than anyone expected, I think students will appreciate the convenience of the new department offices," Masson said. "The space is large and bright, with big windows overlooking the Kyser Brickway. Instructors and advisors have room to work with students both individually and in small groups."



Croghan was one professor using the Communications Lab as his temporary office. Other professors found semi-permanent offices in the student media suite. Dr. Paula Furr, director of the department, used a spare room, while Stephanie Masson shared office space with Jessie Gabor, editor of the Potpourri. *Photo by Kimberly Mosier*

Covert meetings organized to discuss legalization of rape

Emily Carter
Life Editor/Designer

Even though only 2 percent of reported rapes are false according to Stanford University, Roosh V thinks that women falsely accuse men because they are "awkward, sad or guilty for a sexual encounter they didn't fully remember." His solution for this: make rape legal on private property. He claims that women would better defend themselves this way.

"If rape becomes legal under my proposal, a girl will protect her body in the same manner that she protects her purse and smartphone," he wrote on his blog.

He further explained that she would be less likely to impair her judgment or spend time un-chaperoned with a man she doesn't want to have sex with.

Roosh V's opinion led to Men's Rights Activist organizing 165 meetings in 43 countries on Feb. 6 to discuss legalizing rape. Banned from the meetings are "women, gay and trans men, and men under 21." The group also has plans to record "crazy feminists" and send it to Roosh V so they "can tear them up."'

Some feminist groups are planning to protest the meetings, going as far as reporting them to the police.

The ultimate plan for these meetings, according to Roosh, is to eventually go public.

"Up to now, the enemy has been able to exert their power by isolating us and attacking with shrieking mobs, but we'll be able to neutralize that tactic by amassing in high numbers come Feb. 6," he said.

The group only organized one meeting in Louisiana, which will take place in New Orleans.

Even though MRA's are becoming more vocal about rape and sexual assault, the opposite is also true.

Across the nation organizations have been working to end rape. Movements like "It's On Us," "End Rape on Campus" and "No More" exist to do just that. They organize panels, protests and self-defense classes to bring awareness to the prevalence of sexual assault and how to protect oneself to the best of their ability.

The consequences of rape are severe including the chances of catching an STI, getting pregnant and the emotional trauma that results from the attack, during and after. After reporting rape, people have to repeatedly explain what happened to them to cops, doctors and, if the case goes to court, a jury. Once the victim starts to testify, lawyers can ask them anything they want, including their previous sexual activity, whether they were drinking the night they claim they were attacked, what they were wearing and other questions that call doubt to their accusation.

Accusers may not even have to wait until they enter a courtroom to hear those questions. Women tell stories about police officers and peers calling their claim into question, sometimes resorting to slut shamming and victim blaming. After that medical, judicial and social process, only 2 percent of rapists will spend at least one day in jail, according to the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network.

Common explanations for the low conviction rate state that the evidence isn't clear enough or the accuser isn't reliable enough. Another common explanation is that a false report was filed with the police.

When combining the percentage of convictions with the percentage of sexual assaults reported (32 percent according to RAINN), Roosh V and the MRA's claim that false reports are more common than sexual assaults does not add up.

NS 'U' Voice

What is your current favorite Netflix or Amazon Prime series? Why?

Ashley Hardeman



Junior
Criminal Justice

"It is a series on Netflix called 'Narcos.' It is basically about the Mexican cartel and how they move their money. I like it because it has a lot of action in it."

Jo Butcher



Freshman
English

"My favorite series is 'Orange is the New Black.' I think it is revolutionary because everyone gets their back story told and it is really true to life."

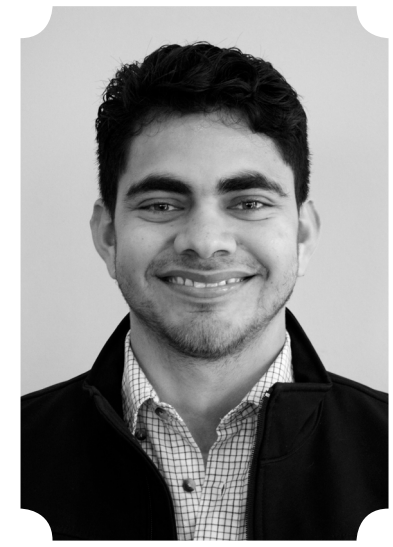
Caitlin O'Neal



Freshman
Nursing

"'RuPaul's Drag Race' because it creates a lot of opportunities for a lot of different minorities to be represented."

Carlos Camargo



Senior
Music Performance and Business

"My favorite show on Netflix is 'Sin Senos no hay Paraíso' [Without Breasts There is No Paradise]. It shows some girls that are working on the street, but they encourage other girls to not go down the same path."

Isaiah Wheeler



Junior
Criminal Justice

"My favorite show on Netflix would be 'Prison Break' because it is very action packed and every episode keeps you on your toes."

Segregation or integration: Stacey Dash says people need to decide

After the controversial Oscar nominations, Dash did not agree with boycotting the ceremony. She claims that if they want equal treament, they can't seperate themselves.

An-gel Samuel
Opinions Editor

The black community has already disowned Raven Symone for her numerous obscenities, but do we have to do the same for Stacey Dash?

On Jan. 20, the former "Clueless" co-star appeared on an interview with Fox News' TV show "Fox & Friends." She was asked how she felt about Spike Lee, Reverend Al Sharpton and Jada Pinkett Smith boycotting the Oscars. They refused to watch or be a part of the program due to racial disparity.

Dash did not agree with boycotting the Oscars. Along with this, she also said she thinks that the Black Entertainment Television network and the BET awards should be removed. But that's not all! She also said she wants to do away with Black History Month! I don't believe Martin Luther King would stand for this.

"We have to make up our minds," Dash said. "Either we want to have segregation or integration. And if we don't want segregation, then we need to get rid of channels like BET and the BET Awards and the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) Image Awards, where you're only awarded if you're black."

"We're Americans. Period. That's it. If it were the other way around, we would be up in arms. It's a double standard." Dash said.

Steve Doocy asked if she meant that there "shouldn't be a Black History Month because there isn't a white history month?"
"Exactly. Exactly," she responded. She managed to create a social media storm with these outrageous claims.

The crazy part is that Dash has made several appearances on BET where she starred in movies and TV shows. She was a part of the BET series "The Game" where she played a love interest to one of the co-stars.

BET was not pleased with her choice of words and posted a picture of her on set of "The Game" to Instagram with the caption "Soooooo Stacey Dash, can we get our check back…or nah?"

I think this is completely ridiculous. Black History Month is sacred and a time to recognize and celebrate achievements by black Americans. In all honesty, it should be celebrated year-round, but instead it's condensed into a month.

I understand Stacey Dash wants equality, and I see what she is trying to say in a way. But as a member of the black community herself as well as an actress and willing participant on BET, she was out of line for saying it should be eliminated.

Gender neutral bathroom signs not enough

Airrol Angelle
Staff Writer



The gender neutral bathrooms are located on the third floor of the Union. *Photo by Alec Horton*

At the end of last semester, a small change happened that will hopefully make way for more progress on campus.

On the third floor of the union there are two single-stall bathrooms. Before the end of last semester, one was labeled "MEN" and the other "WOMEN" respectively. When we returned from break, many Demons sent me texts or Facebook messages informing me that the original gendered signs were removed from the outside of these bathroom doors, and each was replaced with a sign that read "all gender restroom."

The messages were so sweet, they each wanted to be the first person to inform me that the gender equality struggle on NSU's campus is over. I almost felt bad about saying, "Thank you, but not quite." I mean, if they had paid attention to what is really necessary, they would realize a little bit of remodeling is required to make these restrooms official all-gender restrooms. For example, currently one restroom has a urinal and the other does not. Both restrooms should be the exact same.

Right now I am seriously troubled by the silencing tactics being used against student activists. Anytime we ask for something, we are told it is impossible – even though we have researched it extensively and made concrete plans based on other colleges which have accomplished their goals of inclusion. We are also told that we have to be patient, because "change does not happen overnight." Which really means, "I do not want to do anything. I hope you forget we had this conversation."

I can deal with those responses; they are expected. I do not understand why people cannot bring themselves to be honest with us. I am starting to believe that it is because they know, deep in their hearts, that their honest discomfort with progress would be considered dishonorable by a large majority of our student population. The responses I received for my apathy towards simple sign replacement is something I will not stand for. I think these silencing tactics deserve to be called out before they are used again.

The usual conversation:

"Things could always be worse." You're right, we could be dead. Oh wait, members of my trans family are being murdered every day because "progress is just so darn hard."

"At least it is something." You're right; at LEAST it is something. Let me turn in a few assignments way under par and try that same excuse.

"Why can't you just be satisfied?" You're right, I cannot be satisfied. It's not about them not doing what we asked. It is me, it is my fault; I suffer from the inability to be satisfied.

"What more do you want!?!" I WANT MORE. Not more than we originally asked, but more than they have accomplished!

I have made my side of this argument public to encourage more effective communication between the students fighting for progress and the administration passively fighting against it. We should not feel guilty for trying to make our school a better place for EVERYONE.

Below is the call to action, originally published in Volume 101: Issue 4 of The Current Sauce by Meg Denny. Also, I would like to add before anyone tells us "We can't do this because of budget cuts," that changing the wording on digital forms and making places trans-friendly does not cost anything but kindness.



1. Add the phrase "gender identity or expression" to the nondiscrimination policy.

2. Ask for "gender identity" on college forms and surveys.

3. Let students use their chosen name on campus records and documents.

4. Let students change their gender on campus records and documents.

5. Offer gender-inclusive housing.

6. Provide gender-inclusive bathrooms.

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Lady Demons wrap up weekend in Florida

Cassandra Briscoe
Copy Editor/Wrtier

While taking in the sun, beautiful beaches and palm trees, the Lady Demons tennis team was also able to get in some good competition, as the start of conference play quickly approached. They competed in a tournament on Jan. 16-19 in Fort Myers, Fla., making it as far as the championship match in the A single's draw.

Senior, Natalya Krutova is very excited to compete in her last season as a Lady Demon. Looking back, she has excelled on the court and in the classroom, which includes two automatic bids to the NCAA tournament.

Krutova, a Ukrainian native, reflected on the weekend as a good test for the team, physically and mentally. The weather conditions in Fort Myers were not optimal for a tennis match; it was rather windy which caused the Lady Demons to adjust their game plans a little bit.

"There were a lot of good players that we got to play against which allows us to see where we stand and what we need to work on," Krutova said. "We handled the nerves good and had great team spirit throughout the whole tournament."



Senior Natalya Krutova focused after the hit ball during a match this season. During last week's match, she made it to the championship match in the A single's draw. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

With the loss of Tatiana Larina, a valuable member of the tennis team for the past five years, Krutova has taken on the leading role for the upcoming season. In Florida, she reached the championship match of the A single's draw, which was a highlight of the weekend for the team.

In her last four years as a Lady Demon, Krutova has been honored individually, but her best memories may be the team victories which came often. As a freshman, she contributed to a Southland Conference trophy and an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament. This was followed by a regular season win as a sophomore. As a junior, she repeated with another Southland Conference championship ring and a bid to her second appearance and shot at a national title.

"We all are very excited about the season and I think we are ready for great competition," Krutova said. "I am personally looking forward to this season because I am a senior and it will be my last season as a Lady Demon."

The team has very high hopes and are always projected to do well in the Southland Conference. With strong finishes in the past couple of years, the Lady Demons are usually the team to beat. It is difficult to repeat as champions, which brings added pressure.

"On our first team meeting last semester, we set the team goal: get to the National Championship," she said. "We have been and still are working hard toward this goal."

This year, the tournament will be hosted by SFA in Nacogdoches, Texas, even more reason to bring home another trophy on the soil of our rivals.

Krutova has already left her mark on a very successful tennis program at NSU. Krutova, along with her coaches and teammates, has high expectations for her final season. She is a true leader on the court and in the classroom.

The Lady Demons will begin their home games campaign starting Feb. 10 at 1:30 p.m. All home matches will be played at the Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex.

Super Bowl 50: New school v. old school

Jacob Hlcks
Sports Editor

Grab your buds, kick up your feet and get ready for a fight. Super Bowl 50 is here.

On Feb. 7, the Peyton Manning-led Denver Broncos travel to Santa Clara, Calif. to take on Cam Newton and the Carolina Panthers. This will be a battle of the two best teams in the National Football League, and also a battle of two different eras of quarterbacks.

Cam Newton, 26, and Peyton Manning, 39, make this game one for the history books. Between Manning and Newton, this is the biggest age difference between two quarterbacks in Super Bowl history.

The Denver Broncos won 12 of their 16 games this season, but it has been a rocky season to say the least. For the second half of their season, they had Brock Osweiler, a backup quarterback, starting in place of Peyton Manning.

This move actually caused some drama, as Osweiler was pretty good during the six games that he played. But Manning came back in the last regular season game, mounted a comeback and that was the end of the discussion. The Broncos overcame all odds, getting Manning to his fourth Super Bowl and beating the favored New England Patriots, 20-18.

The Carolina Panthers have had a slightly different path to success than Denver. They were completely dominant throughout the regular season, only losing one game all year against their division rivals, the Atlanta Falcons. The Panthers cruised through the playoffs, destroying the Arizona Cardinals in the NFC Championship, 49-15.

This particular game is huge for a number of reasons. First, this is Peyton Manning's fourth, and probably last Super Bowl. Manning has lost his last two games in the big one, losing to the New Orleans Saints and the Seattle Seahawks. Peyton actually has less Super Bowl rings than his younger brother Eli, who has two, even though it is general consensus that Peyton is the better Manning.

Second, this is the coming-out party for Cam Newton. This year has been a total breakout year for him, with 35 touchdowns to 10 interceptions, 3,837 passing yards and a 99.4 QBR for the year. He has been completely dominant with his passing, and, when the defense bears down on him, he is able to use his legs to run away from the pass rush and make a big play. He has been a freak of nature this season, and more than likely league MVP.

But what about the actual matchup? Who is going to win this game?

Well, for starters Carolina is and should be favored. However, Denver should not be overlooked. Their defense is one of the best in the league, causing 14 interceptions, four touchdowns and 22 fumbles. They are fast, ferocious and opportunistic. When they see a weakness, they exploit it.

Carolina's defense has been eerily similar to Denver's. In fact, they might be even better. What tips the scale in favor of the Panthers is their offense. While the Broncos have Peyton Manning, a sure-fire Hall-of-Famer, he has been a shell of his former self. He threw 17 interceptions in only 10 games. He has caught fire in the playoffs, but Peyton has not experienced this type of defense before. Unfortunately, this will probably be his last game as he is dinosaur age in NFL years. He turns 40-years-old in March.

One thing is for sure, Super Bowl 50 will be one for the ages.



Senior guard Ta'Jon Welcome went up for a layup during their 91-76 rout against the Lions. Both Demons teams received victories that night. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*

Demons sweep Lions in home doubleheader

Reggie Williams
Sports Writer

Saturday afternoon was the tale of two teams at different ends of the spectrum.

The Lady Demons, on the one hand, were one of the better teams in the Southland conference until a recent three-game losing streak, boasting an 11-9 record. The men's team (5-14, 2-7), while also in a three-game slide, have rather struggled on the court this season due to the conspicuous absence of star senior guard Jalan West.

Needless to say, both the Demon and Lady Demons basketball programs were very appreciative of the clean sweep of wins at home Saturday against the Lions of Southeastern. The women won in a 20-point routing 82-62, while the men also won big 91-76. The women took the floor first against a Lady Lions team who are in the middle of a disappointing season and a three-game losing streak.

The Lady Demons came out putting on a defensive clinic forcing 20 turnovers for the game, 12 of which came in the first half of play. The offense was about as balanced as you could want with four Lady Demons pouring in double-digit performances. Junior guard Beatrice Atture lead all scorers with a big 21-point outing, while freshman big Cheyenne Brown continues her brilliant freshman season adding in 16 big points.

The men's game right after told much of the same story. Junior guard Sabri Thompson started the offensive showcase, shooting and making just one of his five made three pointers. Much like the Lady Demons, the men's program also had multiple players in the double-digit point category.

The big story for NSU was the huge play of freshman big-man Ishmael Lane. The newcomer from Port Allen, La., has been a breath of fresh air in the post, something the Demons haven't had much of since the days of Will Mosely back in 2012. Lane has compiled a few different double double performances this year and seems to be getting better every game.

His 17 point, 14 rebound game against the Lions played a crucial part in the Demons collecting just their fifth win of the season. The Demons take the floor again Tuesday night in Prather against the Bears of Central Arkansas at 6:30 p.m., while the Lady Demons hit the road to take on the Stephen F. Austin Lady Lumberjacks in Nacogdoches.

First female coach

Continued from front

The Buffalo Bills have taken the next step in the evolution of female football coaches, but technically they were not first. Jennifer Welter worked with the Arizona Cardinals inside linebackers through training camp and preseason. However, her time was short, as she was released after the completion of her internship. Welter described her involvement as a "fantastic experience and a dream come true."

Although the Cardinals created the idea of women in the NFL, it wasn't enough to make a difference. The hiring of Welter as an intern might have paved the way for Smith, but she earned every bit of her promotion.

"It's important to understand that Kathryn earned this position because she has shown she is qualified, dedicated and puts in the work needed for this role."

From a young age, sports have always been her passion. She participated in lacrosse, swimming and bowling herself, and then attended St. John's University, where she studied sports management. Her career in the NFL started as an internship with the New York Jets, while still an undergrad.

Her journey to the big leagues saw her as a special events intern, a college scouting intern, a player personnel assistant and an administrative assistant for the Bills. After 13 years of work, she is now a full-time coach and a page in the history books.

"I worked with the men's basketball team at St. John's," she said. "Then getting in and starting at the bottom for an NFL team and just learning as much as I could and working as hard as I could really just fostered that passion for football specifically."

Through her experience and her will to never give up, she is titled as a pioneer to the NFL.

"It's important to understand that Kathryn earned this position because she has shown she is qualified, dedicated and puts in the work needed for this role," Kim Pegula, co-owner of the Bills, said. "We look forward to the contributions she will make to our organization."

Head Coach Rex Ryan also believes Smith is a perfect fit for the job. Smith and Ryan have been working together for a number of years, and he believes this will be no different.

"Kathryn deserves this promotion based on her knowledge and strong commitment, and I know she is going to do a great job." Ryan said.

However, not everyone is on board with having a female coach in the NFL, specifically Kevin Kiley, a Cleveland radio host, who showed no remorse after his negative comments towards Smith and the Buffalo Bills organization as a whole.

Kiley repeatedly discussed how it was absurd to hire a female coach and claimed there is no place for women in sports.

"She couldn't possibly be qualified to the same level that a man could be qualified to coach," Kiley said.

Ryan heard of these comments during an interview and responded by saying that comments like these do not deserve his response.

Smith climbed a ladder to her success. She took every experience and acted as a sponge, gaining knowledge in any field she could. Now, she has a spot on the field, an area on the sideline that is all her own.

Although this is an amazing opportunity for her on a personal level, she also understands the triumph this brings to women in general.

"It's a tremendous honor […] I might be the first, but I don't think I'll be the only one for very long."

So to all the young girls on the playground who are told that they throw like a girl, catch like a girl, run like a girl or even can't tackle because they are a girl, think again. Kathryn Smith is going to coach like a girl, and people are going to pay big money to see it.

From woman all over, thank you Kathryn Smith for making history and inspiring young girls everywhere.

Pink tax caught red-handed

Jade Williams
Staff Writer

Whilst perusing the store aisles for your personal care items, you gaze at the bright colored packaging of the product you desire. You examine its depictions of the seemingly happy women on the wrapping, then complain about the price while purchasing the item anyway.

Commonly, men's personal care products are located near the women's. Other than their packaging, the products are basically the same. The only real difference is the baiting strategy of what each product has to offer, such as "a closer shave" or "lasts 10 times longer."

I made some comparisons of a few products and made some interesting discoveries. The women's product prices were slightly increased, which makes a huge impact over time. One Men's Spa Basket costs $64.79 while a woman's basket costs $64.99 for the same basic items, such as soap, body wash, body lotion and loofahs.

Also, the quantity of similar items were not the same. I found Degree deodorant to have the same price of $3.97, but women were getting a smaller amount of the product. As women, we are expected to be attracted to the bright-colored and floral-scented merchandise that is presented before us.

Products of the same make up generally produce similar — if not the same — results. It is in the end our own decision to pay more for what is essentially the same product.

What is not under our control is what our bodies undergo monthly. These uncomfortable times of the month also carry a financial burden. The argument that feminine hygiene products are luxury items is completely laughable when taking into account that these items are absolutely necessary in preventing many different types of infections.

"Without feminine hygiene products, women are at risk for developing vaginal disease and are at risk of infertility," Ohio House of Representative Greta Johnson said.

If this is the case, then pads for men should be considered a "luxury" as well.

In an act of protest on the tampon tax, two women performed what is called "free bleeding" outside the Houses of Parliament in the U.K. The two individuals wore white trousers to completely expose their blood. "Taxes are necessary," protester Charlie Edge stated, "I get it. So are tampons and pads."

Although I am not as daring as those women, I do appreciate and understand the point they are trying to make. To add fuel to this burning blaze, women are currently being underpaid just because of what lies below their belts while still having to cough up extra change for products. If it takes being called names and making several people uncomfortable to get your point across then so be it.

For ages, the color pink has been associated as feminine and docile. Yes, many women enjoy smelling like roses, having razors with the vibrancy of the sun and having the moisture equivalent to baby's skin. However, taxing items that are absolutely necessary shows a disregard for women and what they mean to this world. Instead of penalizing women for circumstances beyond our control, make an additional tax on something that actually is a luxury item not a necessity.



Products marketed to women tend to be priced higher than products marketed to men. Products priced the same tend to have a smaller quantity for women. *Photo by Morgan Reese*



The Current Sauce would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Mardi Gras break!

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Ya Ya's
Children's Boutique
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Results of survey on who students plan to vote for in presidential election
Page 2



Super Bowl 50 covered from game to halftime to resulting controversies
Page 5



New barbies highlight long-time concerns over impact on image
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THE CURRENTSAUCE

BUDGET CRISIS THREATENS FUNDING

Meg Denny
News Editor

Newly elected governor John Bel Edwards released a statement on Feb. 11, warning Louisianans about the budget deficit of 950 million dollars facing the state. Starting on Feb. 14, the state legislature is meeting for three weeks to work out a plan to solve the deficit. Educational funds have been highly threatened in recent days, including TOPS. Students are looking everywhere for answers to the questions of education in Louisiana brought up by the sudden possibility of closures.

WHAT LED TO THIS CRISIS? WHY NOW?

"This has been building over the last several years," Dr. Jim Henderson stated. The major deficit the state faces this term is caused by a number of issues. Ineffective taxation plans are one cause discussed by the Legislature during this time.

"We have a net negative corporative franchise collection so far for this year," Henderson said. This means the state has paid more money to corporations than what those organizations have paid back to the state.

"The reason we have all of these behaviors is because we have created a system designed to make these behaviors happen," he said.

Additionally, the drop in oil prices over the past few years added a quarter of a billion dollars to our deficit. Henderson explained that this situation is not new whatsoever. In fact, the academic year of 2008-2009 was the last year that education was fully funded by the state under the higher education funding formula. Therefore, over the past seven years, colleges and universities in Louisiana have lost more and more funding.

While many claim Governor Edwards's campaign deceived the voters by not informing them on the budget issues beforehand, the chief legislative fiscal officer, Greg Albrecht, claims that he could not calculate clearly the severity of the deficit until after the previous administration had left office.

"I think we can all agree that we're in a pretty bad situation currently, and maybe the past administration didn't help this whole scenario one bit," SGA president Matthew Whitaker commented.

HOW WILL THIS AFFECT FINANCIAL AID?

No students will be affected this academic year by LAFSA's possible inability to complete the 20 percent of payments left for TOPS. However, universities might have to absorb this cost if the Legislature does not approve their requests for the final funding. Next year, TOPS is only funded 25 percent, and, unless the legislature acts to change that, students will be affected.

First, the cutting process will eliminate students who have not filled out FASFA or who have turned it in late. Secondly, Whitaker said that students with minimum ACT requirement scores will "probably get cut," if TOPS is not completely funded next year. Then students functioning on higher incomes will be cut. "The middle class, decent students in high school, will be most likely to get TOPS," Whitaker said.

Henderson is confident that NSU's scholarships will not be cut, and that the office of advancement will make the maintaining of scholarships a priority.

WHAT IS THE WORST CASE SCENARIO?

While NSU has the slight possibility of shutting down, both Whitaker and Henderson are not concerned with this situation. "In the short run, I think there's a lot of angst because of all of the messaging coming out of Baton Rouge," Henderson said.

If the Legislature drastically defunds education, students will see it affect their campus in the long term; the services and resources offered to them on campus will begin to fade, due to the decrease in money intake. Overall, the school's growth rate will decline.

Additionally, if absolutely necessary, staff might face furloughs. "We'll index it. We'll ensure that the lowest paid among our staff are exposed the least to furloughs," Henderson said. He expressed his adamant reluctance to this action.

Additionally, students may see less staff as people reach retirement—less hires will be made.

WHAT IS EXPECTED?

"We are not going to let students bare the brunt of this dysfunction in Baton Rouge—no way, no shape, no form," Henderson affirmed. In fact, NSU is technically more student-controlled than state-controlled.

Seventy percent of funding for NSU comes from student tuition and fees, alumni donations, and business and industry donations. The state only funds 30 percent of the school's revenue.

"We are becoming more privatized. We actually generate a lot of our own money," Whitaker said. "I see us only getting better."

While students will see a reduction in school spending, much should remain the same, according to Whitaker. Enrollment for Spring 2016 is higher than ever, as well as the predicted numbers for Fall 2016 enrollment. "If we get at least a thousand freshmen, it will offset the budget issues and get us in the safe zone," he said.

WHAT CAN STUDENTS DO TO HELP?

SGA is sponsoring a bus trip to Baton Rouge on Feb. 24 to speak with the Legislature about the student concerns. Information to sign up will soon be released. Also, Henderson encourages students to contact the local legislatures to let their voices be heard. Two local legislatures are Kenny Cox and Gerald Long. The university president encourages all students to continue diligently with their work at NSU.

"If you start with the concept that we're not going to let this negatively affect our students regardless of what happens in Baton Rouge, then it allows you to remove the panic and fear and it allows you to move forward in a progressive and even more rapid way because of the crisis," Henderson concluded.

Grad fest partners with career fair

Damian Glover
Staff Writer

Tuesday was a one-stop shop for graduating seniors looking to prepare for graduation and the next step. This was the first year that these two events were combined, and over 500 students along with 40 corporate vendors attended.

This event gave students an opportunity to close out any outstanding debts they had with the university, as well as purchase graduation material like cap and gowns, while networking with prospective employers.

Traci Norris, assistant director of the counseling and career services office at NSU, believed that grad fest and career offered many different opportunities for students to prepare for life after college.

"The most important thing that I believe a student can take away from this event is the possibility of landing a professional opportunity with a company," Norris said.



Donald Myers gets help straightening his tie while waiting in line to take his senior picture. When asked what his plans are after graduating in May he said, "I'm hoping to move back to Texas to find a job as a high school band director."

Photo by Sheila Humphrey

In the fall, the major event was split, offering students the chance to first network with different universities then, on another date, complete the process for graduation. After reviewing the outcome of the event and surveys from students, however, it was better suited that the grad fest and career fair be paired together to better suit the students.

Several ways that companies are found for the career fair include them personally contacting the university to recruit future leaders as well as through student surveys with suggestions. Corporate companies can also be found through other professional development and networking opportunities through the Career center.

Besides individuals from the corporate world being present during the career fair, the grad fair included a live broadcast provided by KNWD, free graduation cap and gown proof sittings, class ring selection and an exit survey.

Senior Daniel James, a health and exercise science major, has looked forward to attending the grad and career fair since his freshman year.

"The experience was really wonderful especially for those that did not have much of an idea what they wanted to do with their life," James said. "I definitely think that was something really beneficial for them to give us the guidance that we needed most."

SGA minutes

Monday, Feb. 15

•SGA is sponsoring a bus that will head to Baton Rouge on Feb. 24 to address the state legislature with student concerns on the budget issues. The senate gets priority, then students will be able to sign up.

•For students who cannot make it to the bus trip but still wish to voice their concerns, a letter writing campaign or something similar will be planned.

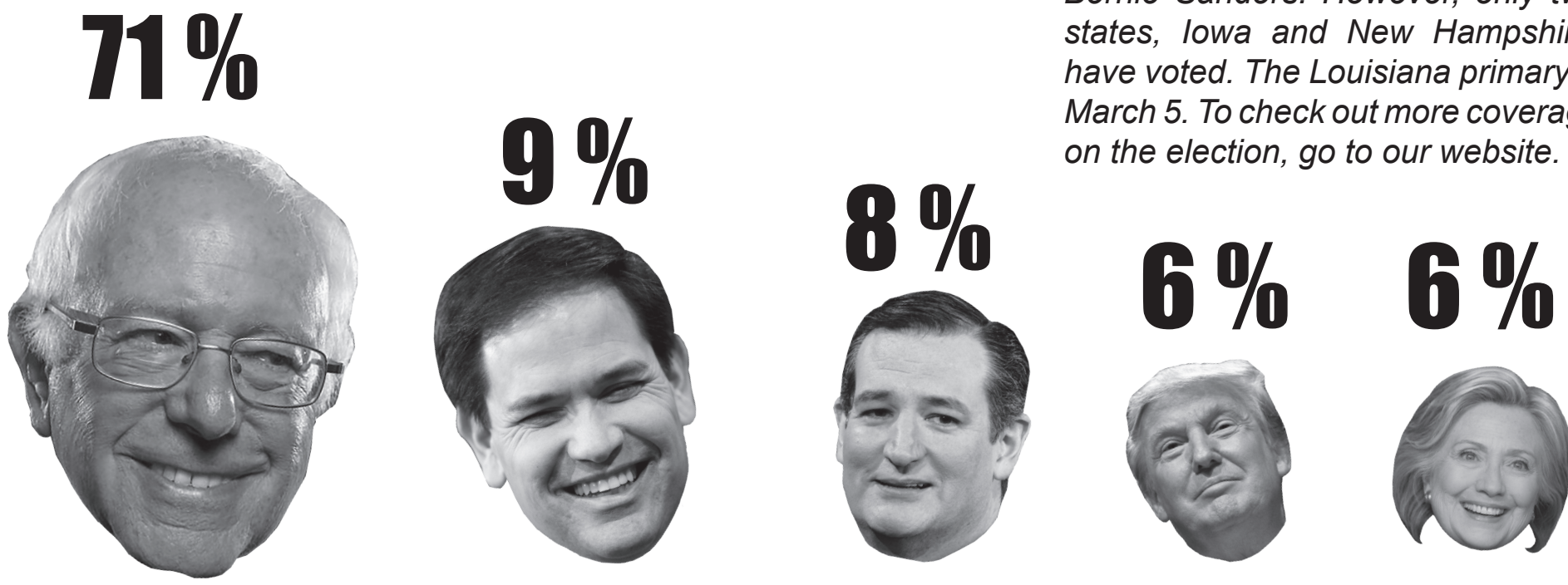
•A budget forum for students is in the works.

•Internal affairs will rennovate the SGA office in the Union.

•The commissioner of higher education will be in Alexandria on Feb. 19.

Students choose Sanders in poll for the 2016 presidential election, Rubio and Cruz follow far behind

The Current Sauce conducted a survey on 2016 presidential candidates, and many students are feeling the Bern. Currently, the primary front runners are Ted Cruz, Donald Trump, Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders. However, only two states, Iowa and New Hampshire, have voted. The Louisiana primary is March 5. To check out more coverage on the election, go to our website.



Local water saftey questioned

Kimberly Mosier
Staff Writer



Photo from Creative Commons

Cities from across the United States are crying out with similar water woes that plagued Flint, Mich., and students say Natchitoches just might be one of them.

"I don't drink the nasty water here unless I have to," senior mathematics major Jessica Fletschinger said. "It tastes like dirt, and it burns my eyes in the shower."

Since Jan. 5 when the governor of Michigan declared the city of Flint to be in a state of emergency due to toxic water, the "Flint water crisis" emerged as a hot social media topic with new cities reporting identical problems in their drinking water.

The problems students are noticing in Natchitoches water include a gross taste, a cloudy look and a funny smell. Some students, like sophomore communications major Ciera Jenkins, have gone as far as experimenting with tap water by leaving it out for a couple of days — only to witness mold growing.

"It was so nasty," Jenkins said.

According to the New York Times, the problem in Flint was caused by old, lead corroded pipes that delivered the water to each household. Typically, workers would add a special chemical that prevents the pipes from corroding and contaminating the water, but when they stopped adding the chemical, the levels of lead in the water increased, making it unsafe to drink.

Congress banned the use of lead water pipes 30 years ago; however, between 3.3 million and 10 million older ones remain in existence in older, rural cities. According to the Times, the regulations established by the Environmental Protection Agency are "outdated" and leave nine out of 10 homes susceptible to lead contamination.

The Safe Drinking Water Act gives individual states the authority to set and enforce their own drinking water standards as long as the standards are as a stringent as the EPA's national standards according to the official U.S. EPA website. One regulation includes set water testing schedules and methods that water systems must follow.

If a state has a problem with contaminants in the water, it is required by EPA and state regulations for the city to provide a written statement to all residents stating that it does not meet regulations.

Fletschinger said she received these notices before. However, their frequent nature and occasional occurrences in which her friends did not receive these notices only fueled her excuse to use a water filter.

"Natchitoches water will never be good unless they are willing to fix it," sophomore psychology major Laikyn Parker said. "Until then, I'd rather spend some money on either a filter or water bottles."

In an attempt to provide students with cleaner water, new water fountains with filters are being installed in areas throughout campus. Two known buildings that have these fountains are in Kyser Hall and the Creative and Performing Arts theater building.

If you live off campus in the historic district and think you might have lead piping, please contact the Water Plant of Natchitoches at 357-3888.

Dillard University president visits NSU

An-gel Samuel
Opinions Editor and Writer

NSU welcomed its first Black History Month speaker to campus on Feb. 16. Dr. Walter Kimbrough, president of Dillard University, is one of the youngest college presidents in the nation, and is known for his active social media accounts; he is often referred to as the "Hip-Hop Prez."

The hands-on administrator writes often on the role of fraternities and sororities in education, particularly for students of color. His book, "Black Greek 101: The Culture, Customs, and Challenges of Black Fraternities and Sororities," focuses on the issues black students face in the current college atmosphere.

Kimbrough visited NSU to discuss the importance of Black History Month's role in the community. He opened up his speech with the topic, "The Day Beyoncé Turned Black," and discussed Beyoncé's super bowl performance and her Formation music video.

"She breaks the Internet; Beyoncé always has a habit of breaking stuff," Kimbrough said. He stated that Beyoncé's Formation video centered around affiliation, appropriation and affirmation.

"Affiliation is great and important. Black History is a time to support affiliation," Kimbrough said. To Kimbrough, this affiliation comes from Beyoncé's decision to make an important statement.

"She explained that the video stood for her wealth and blackness, but despite all of that, she's country," Kimbrough said.

Appropriation in Formation stems from the historical moments such as the statement, "I can't breathe," and the flood of Katrina that came to strengthen the bonds in the black community. Controversially, the scenes shot in New Orleans were actually used from a previous documentary, Kimbrough said.

With community support comes affirmation in the pop-star's video. Because Beyoncé recognized an important issue in her video, she validated many experiences in the black community.

Kimbrough also touched on Stacey Dash's rejection of Black History Month, Donald Trump's attempt to "make America great again," and Iggy Azealia's appropriation of black culture. "There will always be a need for black history," the Dillard president said.

Kimbrough ended his speech with talks of pop culture's ability to stretch across racial barriers. "Yes Beyoncé is black, but she still represents the best of all of us," he said.



Recruiting class brings new hope for Demons



Omasha Brantley, Virgil Hart, Cleveland Davis and Hans Bradley Oh watched as NSU held its National Signing Day Luncheon. *Photo by Sheila Humphrey*

Reginald Williams
Sports Writer

National Signing Day is a monumental day for any high school athlete with a dream of playing college ball. It's the day that high school seniors sign their national letter of intent to play for the next four years at the college of their choice, where they can have a huge impact on their future team, for better or for worse.

Demon football just welcomed a 32 recruit signing class for the 2016 season headlined by quarterback Brooks Haack, a graduate transfer from Football Bowl Subdivision in state rival UL Lafayette. Coach Jay Thomas is confident that this signing class, along with the returning Demon players, can lead NSU into a new era after a series of disappointing seasons.

The last few seasons for the Demons have had many bright spots but overall have been less than stellar to say the least, with only only 30 wins out of 79 games and only 16 wins out of 35 games under Thomas. The Demons will look to the incoming players for a new direction in the fall.

Signing day, in itself, has become a spectacle to see. The families of the players, the media and other school officials gather to watch the players sign. The top four or five star recruits will often keep who they may or may not be signing with a secret.

The uncertainty of it all is what makes this day such a thrill. This day can also make or break a college coach's career and the school's football program.

When coaches go out to recruit players, they look for players who fit their schemes in addition to being high quality guys with character. If this doesn't go right and the team falls into a slump, it can hurt the recruiting process for the school's athletic program. It can also hurt the coach's chances of keeping his job.

The difference in winning and losing can be determined on signing day. Needless to say, this day is a huge day at every school across the country, and for NSU it could be the turning point.

Turnovers were Broncos success in Super Bowl 50

Jacob Hicks
Sports Editor

It's a fairy tale ending for Peyton Manning and the Denver Broncos. In Super Bowl 50, they defeated the favored Carolina Panthers 24-10 to claim their third Super Bowl and Manning's second.

As many people expected, this game was a complete offensive struggle for both teams, as none of them could create anything down the field. It was a battle between Carolina's high-powered offense against an all-time great Denver defense, and an average offense led by Peyton Manning, against an almost equal defense in the Panthers.

It went absolutely horribly for Cam Newton, as Von Miller and DeMarcus Ware terrorized him all night. Newton went 18-41 for 265 yards. He didn't throw or run for a single touchdown, threw an interception and had two fumbles. And when both Miller and Ware pass rushed Newton, he went 1-12, got sacked four times and lost those two fumbles.

Although Denver had 24 points in the game, 14 of those points were pretty much given to them from their defense. Carolina kept the great Peyton Manning in check for majority of the game. Peyton went 13-23 for 141 yards, and an interception.

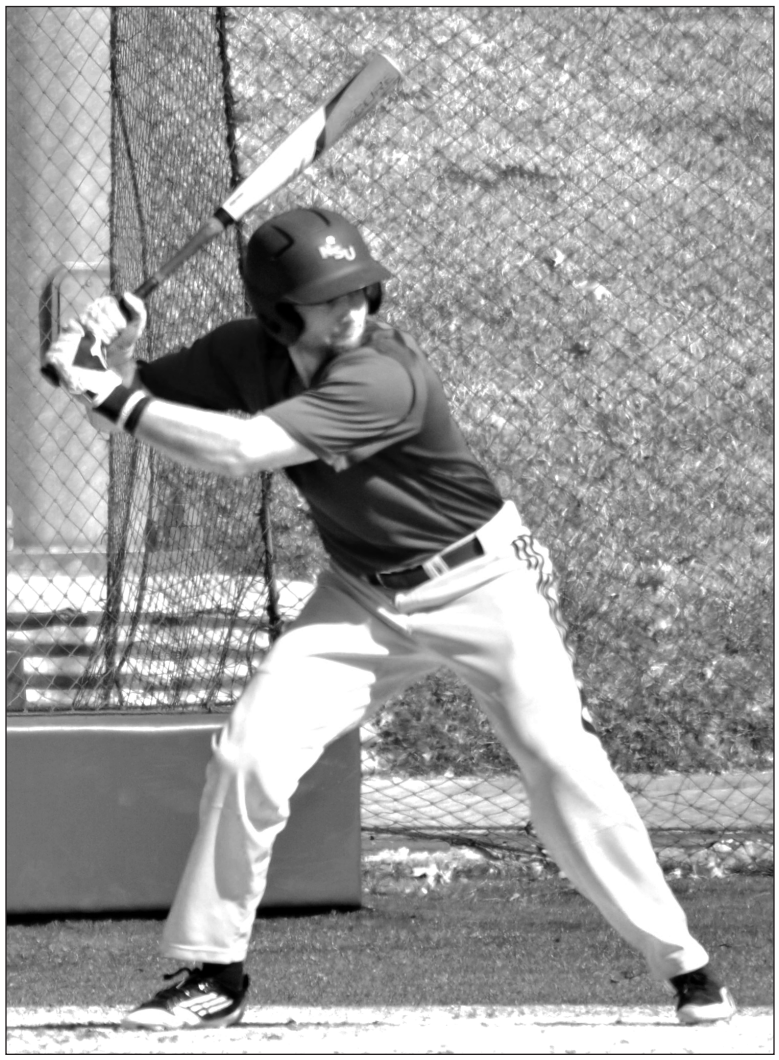
Both defenses played lights out, but the difference in the game was the turnovers and penalties. The Panthers had four turnovers, three fumbles and an interception.
On the other end, the Broncos had two turnovers. Carolina also got penalized 12 times during the game for over 100 yards, which is an entire football field. Meanwhile, Denver only got penalized six times for 51 yards, nearly half less yards.

Peyton Manning now has the storybook ending that every NFL player wants, to go out winning on the biggest stage of them all. There was a doubt that he was even going to play after being benched for Brock Osweiler in Week 11, where he wasn't seen until the last week of the season.

Now he has his second Super Bowl ring, which puts him in some elite company. Coincidentally, there has been only one other quarterback in history to have his final win be in the Super Bowl - John Elway, Hall of Fame quarterback for Denver in the 1990s. He is now the General Manager of the Broncos.

What now for Cam Newton and the Carolina Panthers? This has been a breakout year for Cam Newton, who was the NFL's Most Valuable Player. But can he prove himself to be a star in this league for years to come?

Three years ago, Colin Kaepernick was electrifying the NFL with his mobility as well as his throwing ability, taking the San Francisco 49ers to Super Bowl 47. Just like Carolina, San Francisco lost, and Kaepernick has not been the same since. The similarities are striking, but only time will tell if Cam is just a one-season wonder, or a future MVP of this league.



Demon baseball player gets ready to bat. The season starts Friday, as they will host the Alabama State Hornets for a three game series. *Photo by Clarisse Gaucel*

Swing batter batter

Brian Cook
Sports Writer

The Demon Baseball team is up for bat this weekend, as they are set to host the Hornets of Alabama State. It'll be a three game series, with the first matchup starting Friday at 6:30 p.m.

Last season, the Demons ended 31-23 overall, going 20-8 conference as they made it all the way into the Southland Conference Tournament, losing in the elimination round to Central Arkansas.

This season, the Demon baseball team is projected to finish second in both Southland Conference and Sports Information Directory polls. Alongside that, they also managed to land three players on the Preseason All-Southland team.

Cort Brinson, the reigning Southland Conference Hitter of the Year and Student-Athlete of the Year, was chosen as a first-team outfielder. As a junior, Brinson won the Northwestern State triple crown, batting .350 with nine home runs and 42 RBIs. His 77 hits tied for eighth-most in a single-season at NSU.

Adam Oller, who was a 2014 Freshman All-American, was chosen as a first-team pitcher. Oller, a right-hander from Conroe, Texas, went 6-4 with a 2.58 ERA in 2015, tossing 108 1-3 innings, the second-most in school single-season history.

David Fry made his way onto the second-team list as second baser. Fry batted .267 with two home runs and 30 RBIs, earning third-team All-Southland Conference honors. His 11 doubles placed him in a three-way tie for second on the club.

During the off-season, the Demons managed to place themselves on top as having won the the nations best recruiting class. NSU's 2016 class included 14 freshmen, three junior college transfers and a graduate transfer.

Alabama State is coming off its third straight 30-win season, a 31-19 campaign in 2015 in which the Hornets won their second straight Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) Eastern Division title and were crowned Historic Black College University National Champions (HBCU).

Hornet's pitcher Joseph Camacho was named to the Louisville Slugger Preseason All-American team. Camacho (5-9, 170, SR, El Paso, Texas) earned third-team Preseason All-America honors on the team selected by Collegiate Baseball.

Camacho won his second consecutive SWAC Pitcher of the Year award and first-team All-SWAC honor in 2015, going 12-0 with a 3.84 ERA in 13 starts for the Hornets, who won their second straight SWAC Eastern Division crown.

NSU returns 17 lettermen from its 2015 squad that finished second in the Southland Conference with a 20-8 mark. The Demons open the season when they host Alabama State in the first of a three-game series at Brown-Stroud Field.

The Demons will play 25 home games, including matchups with in-state foes Louisiana Tech, University of Louisiana Monroe and UL Lafayette.

Student opinion on Beyoncé's halftime performance

Janell Parfait
Contributing Writer

Hey, remember that one time people were in cahoots over the Confederate battle flag getting removed from government buildings? That controversy can be condensed into an argument between embarrassing history and patriotism. Embarrassing history verses patriotism, keep that in mind.

In recent pop culture news, American singer-songwriter Beyoncé Knowles-Carter quietly released a new single on the eve of her Super Bowl 50 performance. A surprise release from Beyoncé is nothing new; she released her fifth studio album in 2013 and managed to sell 430,000 digital copies within 24 hours, with no promotion whatsoever.

When Beyoncé performed her new single "Formation" at the halftime show, however, spectators were left with a big "WHAT" on their collective faces. What happened to spark this reaction? Let me activate my Overly Concerned Censor™ Vision and we'll find out:

• This lady interrupted a man's performance (Bruno Mars), and that's just rude!

• Her outfit is an homage to Michael Jackson's 1993 Super Bowl outfit, and he's a weirdo!

• Her accompanying drumline is all-female, which is totally unrealistic!

• Her backup dancers sort of look like Black Panthers, and one of them pushed Jenny in "Forrest Gump." No one hurts Jenny!

• She's taller than the 5'5" Bruno Mars, and that's bad because a woman should never be taller than a man!

• She said "negro," and that's a bad word! Now I can never sing this song with the window rolled down!

A composite of '90s girl power and "Say It Loud—I'm Black and I'm Proud"? Say it ain't so, Bey! I thought you were one of us!

Can't you tell whose point of view I'm writing from?

Okay, no more sarcasm. I then watched the uncensored music video to "Formation" in order to dig up some more "controversial evidence." The video is unlisted from YouTube, so only people with direct links can view it. Perhaps the secrecy of a semi-private video will garner more curiosity? I know it certainly did for me.

Anyway, we've got a submerged NOPD police cruiser, Beyoncé and company wearing stylized period costumes and dancing in a plantation, daughter Blue Ivy sporting a natural afro with some playmates, a Mardi Gras parade procession featuring a Mardi Gras Indians suit, a tour through the Ninth Ward and a hooded kid dancing in front of a row of submissive police officers. Unsurprisingly, these images struck a nerve with some fans: impoverished black residents left behind after Hurricane Katrina and police brutality against unarmed black children have especially left emotional scars on both the victims and the guilty bystanders.

There's your embarrassing history.

The lyrics can be summarized as, "My mom's from here, my dad's from there. My baby has cute curly hair. I like my men with wide noses. I'm so rich and successful; I'm almost like a black Bill Gates. I have to carry a bottle of hot sauce with me everywhere I go because your cooking is inferior to mine. Also I have sex, and that's good too."

And there's your patriotism—well, embracing one's culture, ethnicity and sexuality.

That's the uproar: another side of Southern heritage that the Ghost of Confederacy Past fought to cover up. As it turns out, Southern pride isn't just for the proud descendants of the Confederate States military.

Moreover, an individual should not have to be confined to one identity: Beyoncé makes it known that she is both black and a woman. "Formation" is an anthem, a rallying cry; and it's okay if it's not "your song."

UK legalizes embryonic research, in U.S. still illegal

Savannah Bassett
Staff Writer

Will America follow in Britain's footsteps?

Uproar over stem cell research, Invitro Fertilization [IVF] and altering genetics in human embryos has cast a negative light on embryonic research, and in the U.S. it's still illegal. Britain is a different story, however, after the country recently gave the okay for scientists to genetically modify human embryos.

CNN's Sheena McKenzie reported that "[t]he landmark decision means scientists will now be allowed to alter the DNA of embryos, for research purposes only."

However, implantation of the embryos into women will remain illegal. The embryos being used are excess ones donated for IVF. The approval of this experiment is a triumph for those in the field of genetic research.

"The decision allows basic scientific research into early embryo development and miscarriage to continue," McKenzie said. "With the legalization of experimentation people's knowledge about embryo development and its stages will be able to expand. The different decisions made by each country regarding the development of embryo development research leads to the question, 'Will it ever be legalized in the United States?'"

In February of 2015, Britain also approved the use of a third individual in IVF that would allow certain genetics to cancel out lifetime ailments. This process, however, is banned in the United States where similar experiments were taking place but were eventually shut down by the FDA.

The corporation discontinued the research due to "questions about the long-term practice," according to a CNN article in December. So far the U.S. has kept the three-person IVF method illegal, along with the experimentation methods that Britain just legalized. However, the FDA is continuing to investigate the procedures.

The closest Americans have seen the country get to embryonic research is the approval of stem cell research passed in 2013. Originally the thought that the use of stem cells for research was ethically corrupt led to the nation banning experimental practices involving them.

While some may be celebrating the legalization of the experimental privilege, others are fearing what non-research-related situations may appear. One concern is that the testing will lead to "designer babies."

Designer babies would be those whose genes are altered to change traits, both in personality and physical appearance, by simply shopping for sperm donors online who meet desired credentials. Jen Christensen commented in a CNN article that "[w]ith a few mouse clicks and a credit card, you can order the beginnings of a specific type of baby."

However, many times individuals are looking for donors who are healthy and have an exemplary health record.

Ronald Green, a professor at Dartmouth, commented: "[b]y the end of this century, I am absolutely confident that we will have the tools for someone with the means to use this information to change the child they can have through this process."

The nation won't be following in the UK's footsteps just yet, but only time will tell.



Judging Saturday's cook off was (left to right) Samantha Bonnette, Lee Posey and Miss Natchitoches Lincoln Pearce. *Photo by Sheila Humphrey*

Seafood gumbo with a dash of hard cash

An-gel Samuel
Writer & Opinions Editor

While the budget crisis threatens state funding of higher education for the long haul, NSU is using creative ways to secure its funding. Using gumbo to raise money for scholarships was an obvious choice.

The Gumbo Cook-off held at Prather Coliseum on Feb. 13 raised scholarship money for hundreds of NSU students.

"The People's Choice donations will go to the Demons Unlimited Foundation to help fund scholarships for nearly 400 students here at NSU," Tori Thompson, athletics marketing associate, said.

The cook-off started at 2:30 p.m. right after the girl's basketball game, and the winners were announced at half-time of the boy's basketball game.

More than 300 people gathered around in the lobby after the girls' basketball game to taste the gumbo of four contestants. The four contestants were Sodexo, City Bank, Department of Biology and Natchitoches Regional Medical Center.

The first place winner of the cook-off was the Department of Biology, followed by the Natchitoches Regional Medical Center as the winners of the People's Choice award.

> *"Their gumbo didn't taste like the inside of the pot like the others."*
>
> -Sophomore Taylor Henderson

Freshman Ariel Martin, psychology major, and sophomore Taylor Henderson, criminal justice major, said that, despite the results, they actually enjoyed the Natchitoches Regional Medical Centers gumbo best.

"Theirs was awesome and had a hit of spice, and it tasted more homemade," Martin said.

Henderson said that the medical center's gumbo stood out to him as well.

"Their gumbo didn't taste like the inside of a pot like the others," Henderson said. "I also liked the intense flavor of the gumbo; the spices were amazing."

Freshman nursing major Jessica Watkins, on the other hand, felt the judges chose the right winner. She liked the Department of Biology's gumbo the best because they had more seasoning and meat than the others. She also said their recipes reminded her a lot of her mother's cooking.

Sophomore Shania Dauterive, communications major, said she also enjoyed the Department of Biology's gumbo because theirs was "more flavorful" than the rest.

"It was a close tie between the medical center's gumbo and the Biology Department's gumbo because they were both really good," Dauterive said.

Junior Lincoln Pearce, an accounting major, was one of the judges for this event. She said the turnout was excellent and that each of the gumbos brought something unique to the tasting table.

"I was nervous about judging because I didn't know what to expect," Pearce said. "I thought it would be a harder than it was because I thought all of the gumbos would taste the same, but they were all really different."

Dark chocolate for a dark day

A visit to Valentine's Day's bitter history

Ashley Wolf
Multimedia Coordinator



Photo from Creative Commons

Is it time to break up with Valentine's Day? History proves the holiday has been hiding some serious baggage from us.

Alas, the time has come when those scorned by love can hate Valentine's Day for a valid reason. History sides with the haters this time, proving that what is supposed to be our holy day of romance is actually a day marked by bloodshed, oppression and brutal violence.

It all began in Ancient Rome with the pagan festival of Lupercalia celebrated from Feb. 13-15. The ritual included the sacrifice of animals, specifically goats and dogs. Young women would line up for the men to hit them with the hides of these dead goats and dogs. The women even welcomed this uniquely disgusting affair, as they believed it would make them fertile.

The festival also included a matchmaking lottery, in which the men would draw the names of women from a jar to find their "festival partners" to "chill" with for the rest of the festival. Let's just say the word "festival" stands for a few days of drunken, naked debauchery accompanied by some not-so-kinky interactions with animal sacrifices.

Lupercalia is thought to have begun as early as the founding of Rome in 753 B.C., or even before. However, the festival came to an end around 1200 years later with a decree from Pope Gelasius I.

In an effort to be rid of all of the heathen nonsense, Pope Gelasius I combined St. Valentine's Day with Lupercalia. St. Valentine's Day was not yet a romantic holiday, but a day honoring the martyrdom of two different guys named Valentine, both executed by Emperor Claudius II on February 14 of different years.

Christians toned down Lupercalia quite a bit, eliminating the massacre of goats and dogs and adding some clothes to the occasion. It was like the difference between a ratchet night on Bourbon Street and a party of teenagers drinking alcohol under parental supervision. Apparently, "they're going to do it anyway" is not only the philosophy of cool suburban parents, but Pope Gelasius I as well.

At this point, St. Valentine's Day was still about our reproductive organs and Catholic saints. But leave it to the power of poetry to transform our basic human needs into basic human feelings.

Poet Geoffrey Chaucer wrote Valentine's first association to romance in "The Parliament of Foules":

"For this was Saint Valentine's day, when every bird of every kind that men can imagine comes to this place to choose his mate."

Shakespeare along with other poets helped spread this romantic vision of love across Europe. And soon after, Valentine's Day boarded the Mayflower to North America, where the mass production of Valentine's Day cards began in the nineteenth century.

The ugly history of Valentine's Day was lost when the holiday became a Hallmark business, but the darkness of the day still seeped through in some rather sexist cards in the 1920s. Comic valentines targeted those who didn't fit into the traditional idea of marriage at the time, such as feminists, homosexuals and old maids. The 1920s traditional idea of love came out in cards with phrases like "I would like you for my dictator."

Valentine's Day cards may not be a series of misogynistic jokes anymore, but the darkness of Valentine's Day is still going strong. The business of Valentine's Day is the new oppressor with the sales of chocolate and flowers exploiting child and adult labor outside of the U.S.

The majority of flowers purchased in the U.S. come from Columbia and Ecuador, where workers have been reported to work up to 20 hours a day, at 250-300 stems an hour. Additionally, the pesticides contain harmful toxins that have caused two-thirds of flower workers from Columbia and Ecuador to suffer from work-related health problems, according to the Victoria International Development Education Association.

Meanwhile in West Africa, children as young as 5-years-old work on cocoa fields, performing dangerous tasks that include breaking pods open with knives, lifting heavy loads and being exposed to harmful chemicals.

Thankfully, animal sacrifices are frowned upon nowadays, but, sadly, a seemingly innocent piece of dark chocolate is darker than we think. So you bitter singles are allowed to gloat now; just like love, Valentine's Day is not all that it is cracked up to be.

Tinder gets STD locator

Savannah Bessett
Staff Writer

Tinder brings sexual partners together while pointing them to the nearest STD testing center.

Dating apps started hitting the scene in the mid-2000s and have only made their presence even more known since then. In 2015, an uproar happened when billboards, put up by the AIDS Health Association in Los Angeles, depicted images that insinuated Tinder and fellow-dating app Grindr were culprits for the spread of STDs.

The controversy led to a heated Twitter war and then some comments thrown into an article in Vanity Fair. This situation is the reason for Tinder's newest tool, an STD testing center locator.

Supposedly the addition was added as a way to bury the hatchet between Tinder and the AHF. The addition refers users to the website's health safety page, which shows information on STD prevention and testing.

The app had been repeatedly called out by the media. An article by Sarah Kaplan, written for The Washington Post, quoted that "in Utah, huge increases in the number of gonorrhea diagnoses since 2011—700 percent for women, nearly 300 percent in women—have been at least partly blamed an apps like Tinder.

The debate over the validity of similar claims is what pushed sexual health advocacy groups to target dating app corporations. The senior director of AHF's Public Health Division, whose name was not mentioned, stated that theapps have had an effect on STD rates.

"Mobile Dating apps are rapidly altering the sexual landscape by making casual sex as easily available as ordering a pizza," he said.

"In many ways, location-based mobile dating apps are becoming a digital bathhouse for millennials wherein the next sexual encounter can literally be just a few feet away — as well as the next STD."

While the dispute on whether or not dating apps have lead to a rise in STD rates still continues, some think it may be better to look at the programs as a way to help promote awareness. The AHF's Chief For Their Counsel Of Operations Laura Boudreau commented, "Tinder is in a unique position to promote a message that, while sexual encounters can be fun and exciting, they are potentially risky."

Photos by Creative Commons



Original Bild Lilli dolls
Photo from Creative Com-

History

by Karla Ewing
A&E Editor

Mattel Creations, founded by Ruth and Elliot Handler in 1945, presented the first Barbie, the Teen-Age Fashion Model, on March 9, 1959 at the annual Toy Fair in New York, according to Barbie Media. Her full name was Barbie Millicent Roberts, named after their 15-year-old daughter Barbara Handler, and she was a character from Willows, Wisconsin.

Since her creation, Barbie has been a reflection of American society. She began as a mirror of the glamourous 1950s, to now, a reflection of a diverse society who struggles to integrate.

The Handlers vacationed in Switzerland in 1956, during which time their daughter discovered their inspiration, the 1952 born Bild Lilli dolls, according to Time. Lilli was based off a German comic strip character in the Hamburg newspaper "Bild-Zeitung," and was originally sold in tobacco shops as a racy gift to men. Mattel bought the rights to Lilli doll, recreated and renamed her, according to History.

Mattel was the first toy company to advertise on TV specifically to children, with their promotions during the 1955 "Mickey Mouse Club" broadcastings.

Since 1959, more than 800 million Barbie dolls have been sold around the globe, according to History.

Americanbeautyorbeast?

Barbie "mirrored the sophisticated glamour of 1950s stars like Marilyn Monroe, Rita Hayworth and Elizabeth Taylor, donning high arched brows, pursed red lips, a sassy pony tail with curly bangs and a coy, sideways glance. Even her figure was high fashion and model-esque," according to Barbie Media.

1945 Original Barbie, the Teen-age-Age Fashion Model



1963 Career Girl Barbie



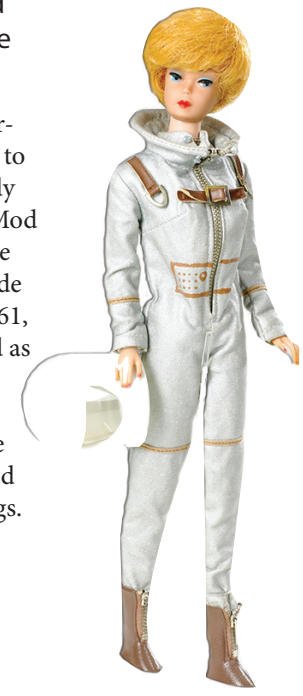


Mod Era Barbie & Ken

Then in the '60s, Barbie's fashion changed to model after First Lady Jackie Kennedy and the Mod Era. The original Barbie was sold with only blonde or brunette hair until 1961, when "Titian" was added as a third hair color. Mattel also introduced a Barbie with "sleep eyes" with the capability of opening and closing and bendable legs.

Barbie evolved with the fast changing fashions. After the first female astronaut, Russian Valentina Tereshkova, came to light in 1963, an astronaut outfit for Barbie was produced, "celebrating the excitement of the space program while showing girls that any career is within reach," according to Barbie Media.

1965 First Astronaut Barbie





1968 Christie first African-American Barbie

The '70s offered a diverse collection of clothing that reflected the alternative lifestyles of Americans at the time. Malibu Barbie, released in 1971, added an open smile and for the first time, her eyes faced forward, which Barbie Media attributes to the feminist movement and female empowerment. Then in 1977, Superstar Barbie was created with a disco themed look.

70s Barbie



Studies find that Barbies affect body image of young girls

The journal "Developmental Psychology" published a study in 2006 called "Does Barbie make girls want to be thin?" A total of 162 girls, from ages five to eight, were exposed to images of either Barbie dolls, Emme dolls (U.S. size 16), or no dolls (baseline control) and then asked to complete self assessments directed towards body image. The girls exposed to Barbie reported lower body esteem and "greater desire for a thinner body shape," than the other groups, according to research. The study found that early exposure to a doll with such an epitomized and unrealistic standard of beauty may damage a girl's body image, which would be partly responsible for an increased risk of an eating disorder or weight cycling.

Florence Williams, a scholar at George Washington University's public health school and author of "Breasts: A Natural and Unnatural History," stated that the new body types are capable of changing children's expectations of body image, both girls and boys, according to to USA Today. "Kids are just bombarded with images that are really just not true to nature," she said. "It can potentially damage your self-esteem or limit your world view." She adds that it's important for young boys to understand that women's bodies come in all shapes and sizes because "they grow up expecting girls' bodies to look a certain way."

The 2014 study "Boys Can Be Anything: Effect of Barbie Play on Girls' Career Cognitions" by Sherman and Zurbriggen was published in the journal "Sex Roles." During the study, 37 U.S. girls residing in the Pacific Northwest, ages 4 to 7, played for five minutes with either Barbie or Mrs. Potato Head and a type of career, being either male or female dominated.

The data showed that girls who played with Barbies, "reported that boys could do significantly more occupations than they could themselves, especially when considering male-dominated careers... such that girls who played with Barbie indicated that they had fewer future career options than boys, whereas girls who played with Mrs. Potato Head reported a smaller difference between future possible careers for themselves as compared to boys. Results support predictions from gender socialization and objectification theories," as stated in the study's abstract.

Elizabeth Sweet, a lecturer of sociology at the University of California, stated of a study by Live Science, "That was the most direct linkage I've seen in a study between playing with stereotypically, highly feminized toys like Barbie and career outcomes."

"It's a modest change, really," Sweet stated, "The curvy doll is only a little more curvy, but the tall and the petite girls are still very thin. Between the 1920s and 1970s, there were virtually no nonwhite characters in toys," Sweet said.







Barbies body makeover

This year, Mattel released the Barbie Fashionistas® line which includes seven skin tones, 22 eye colors, 24 hairstyles, 30 hair colors and 14 face sculpts, resulting in 33 new dolls. The new dolls will also be featuring, for the first time, a flat foot and body shapes. The new line introduced four body types (addition of tall, curvy and petite), "By introducing more variety into the line, Barbie® is offering girls choices that are more reflective of the world they see today," stated in a Jan. 28 press release.

"Barbie has always given girls choices – from her 180 careers, to inspirational roles, to her countless fashions and accessories," said Evelyn Mazzocco, Senior Vice President and Global General Manager of Barbie. "We are excited to literally be changing the face of the brand – these new dolls represent a line that is more reflective of the world girls see around them – the variety in body type, skin tones and style allows girls to find a doll that speaks to them."

The new campaign is "Because with Barbie® You Can Be Anything!" according to Barbie Media. The website also states, in reference to this evolution of Barbie, "Imagination comes in all shapes and sizes. That's why the world of Barbie is evolving."

Mattel is not the only company taking steps in the diversification of dolls. According to Live Science, "The U.K. doll company Makies has made dolls with walking canes, hearing aids and birthmarks, and Lammily and Lottie dolls are made to have more realistic body shapes."

In 2014, Nickolay Lamm raised over $95,000 and produced the Lammily doll with the proportion of an average 19-year-old woman based on data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. It can be bought with "Lammily marks," or stickers such as cellulite, stretch marks, freckles and acne, according to USA Today.

Barbie v. reality

- Her neck would be twice as long and six inches thinner than the average woman, Barbie would not be able to lift her head.
- With her waist being smaller than her head, Barbie only has room for half a liver and a few inches of intestine.
- Barbie's waist measures exactly 56% of her hip circumference. The average woman is about 80%.
- Barbie's wrist would only be 3.5 inches and would be completely unable to succussfully do any heavy lifting.
- Her legs are 50% longer than her arms. and much thinner than average at 16 incheof girth. The average woman's legs are only 20% longer.
- Barbie's ankles are only 6 inches. Due to her top heavy weight distribution, Barbie would have to walk on all fours.

Norton, Olds, Olive, and Dank "Ken and Barbie at life size." Sex Roes. Vol. 34, No. 3-4. pp. 287-294.

Cooking with Vic

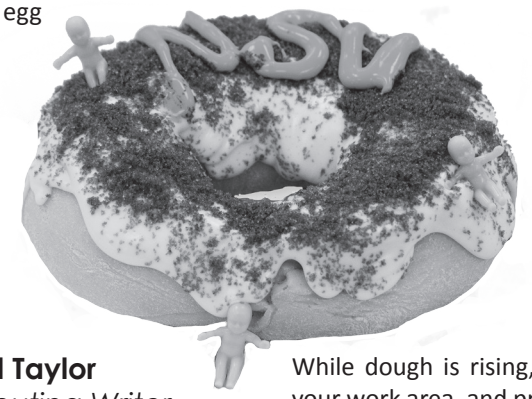
NSU's Famous King Cake

Prep Time: 1 hour Cook Time: 30 Mins. Total Time: 1.5 hours

Dough
* 1/2 cup of milk
* 1/3 cup of water
* 1/2 stick of butter
* 3.75 cups of flour
* 1/4 cup white sugar
* 3/4 tsp salt
* 1 1/3 package of dry yeast
* 1 large egg

Icing
* 1 cup powdered sugar
* 2-3 tsp soft butter
* 1 tbsp whole milk

Optional filling:
* 1 tsp cinnamon mixed with ½ cup sugar



Rachel Taylor
Contributing Writer

First, gather all ingredients. Then place the water, milk and chopped up butter in a liquid measuring cup, cover with paper or plastic and heat in the microwave for 20 seconds. Remove and stir. Heat additional 20 seconds or until the butter is almost melted.

Mix about 1 cup of the flour with all of the sugar, salt, and dry yeast in a large mixing bowl. Add the warm liquids and stir vigorously or mix with an electric mixer at medium for 2 minutes.

Add the egg and ¼ cup flour. Continue stirring vigorously or mixing on medium speed for 2 minutes.

Stir in by hand enough flour to make a dough stiff enough to be kneaded. Knead on lightly floured surface for 8 minutes.

Place dough, in a ball shape, in a greased non-metal (about 2 tsp of oil). Roll the dough to coat completely with the oil. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and place in a warm, draft free spot until double in volume. This is called fermentation, and may take 30 minutes to an hour.

While dough is rising, clean up your work area, and prepare the sugar filling.

When dough has doubled in size, or one hour has passed, punch the dough down and let it rest for several minutes. Roll into a 10" by 14" rectangle using a rolling pin. Divide this in half length-wise to make two 5" by 14" rectangles. Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar and roll into 14" logs. Try not to spread the cinnamon sugar within ½ inch of the edges.

Transfer to a lightly greased cooking sheet or pan, and twist them together to form a circle or oval. Seal the joint where the ends meet by pinching the dough. Stretch the center to improve the circle's shape. Set aside in a warm, draft free space, but do not cover. Allow to proof (2nd rising) for 20-30 minutes.

Bake in a preheated 350 degree oven for 20-30 minutes until golden brown. Make icing during the last few minutes of baking. Remove from oven. Transfer to final container and insert baby. Fill with the optional cream cheese or fruit fillings. Spread icing and sprinkle with alternating bands of colored sugars. Enjoy!

The rise and fall of a Columbian king

Cassandra Briscoe
Copy Editor

Edgy, surreal and intriguing are the three best words to describe "Narcos."

This Netflix original television series was first released Aug. 28, 2015, and has gained a deserved amount of praise since then.

After watching a couple scenes of the show, I was automatically hooked. Narcos is a short series, with only one season released so far, containing 10 episodes. That's right folks, this is a great show to "binge-watch," and it will hold your attention from the very first scene to the last.

Narcos depicts the life of famous drug lord Pablo Escobar. With little to no restraint, this show dives right into the issues that involved Columbia in the 1980s, and quickly involved the U.S. as well.

Escobar, often referred to as "The King of Cocaine," ran a notorious cartel that supplied as much as 80 percent of the white powder that was being smuggled into the U.S. at that time.

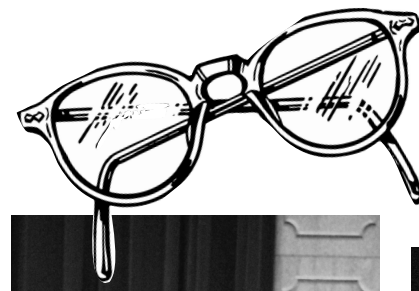
Being the wealthiest criminal in history, he had control over many lives with connections all over the world. Through his ability to write a cheque, which including as many zeros necessary to get the job done, he had the capability to manipulate just about anyone. This show elucidated the corruption of governments and the deterioration of law enforcement, which still affects many countries to this day.

The series does not start by jumping into the cocaine trade. Columbia was first known as a prime smuggling ground for marijuana. As the show continues, it demonstrates the process and preparation of cocaine, how it caught the attention of Escobar and the different ways he distributed it to make billions of dollars.

The music, culture and dialogue all add to the ethnicity of the show, giving a very authentic vibe. With minimal scenes of people speaking English, almost every scene uses slang and different dialect. I enjoyed this part of the series as well. Reading the subtitles that appeared on screen encouraged me to stay focused and really catch what was occurring.

This show has depth, educational value and a thrilling nature that glued me to the TV. As soon as the screen went black and the credits appeared on the season finale, I already had Google launched, trying to find the release date for season two. After a little bit of research, I learned that the next season was set to premiere in Aug. 2016. However, after the loss of the show runner, the show has hit a speed bump pushing back production.

Either way, I will be waiting at the edge of my seat, checking periodically to find the expected release date for season two. This series did not hold back, it exposed the life of Escobar and the state of Columbia at that time. I would recommend this show to anyone looking for a new series to obsess over. The countdown to a new season of "Narcos" has officially begun.

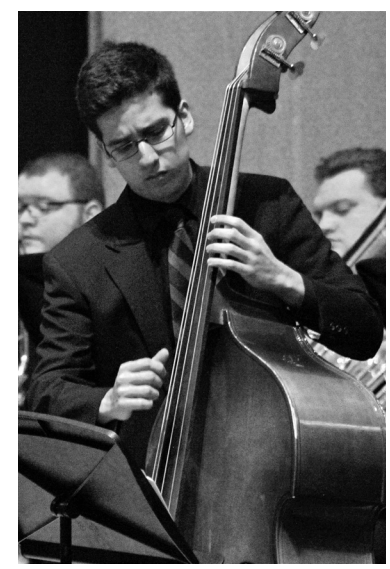


Take a glance at the Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony concert



Music director and conductor of the Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony, Dr. Douglas Bakenhus, was a thrill to watch conduct and often did so without a score.

Photos by Bonny Bacoccini



The recent Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony concert featured works by Beethoven, Haydn, Borodin and local composer, Olson.



Terrie Sanders, Associate Professor of Music, was the featured soloist for the Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony's performance of City of Lights.

Art exhibit highlights struggles of runaway slaves

Savannah Bassett
Staff Writer

A traveling exhibit of pieces gathered by the Texas Runaway Slave Project titled "Portraits of Freedom" is coming to NSU in celebration of Black History Month.

All of the pieces help illuminate the experience from slavery to freedom that slaves in Texas underwent. Student artwork will be presented from various Texas universities along with artwork from two students from NSU.

Not only will it depict the historical journeys taken, but also how artists' views of slavery have evolved over the years. The artists have used an array of mediums ranging from painting all the way to lithography to help convey the beauty of their artwork.

The show is managed by Kyle Ainsworth, who is also the special collections librarian at Stephen F. Austin State University's Ralph W. Steen Library. Ainsworth has also been working on a database about escaped slaves, according to associate professor of art Leslie Gruesbeck.



"Bound by Freedom," 2015 by Brandi Griffin. Oil on canvas, 24 in. by 34 in. Lamar University.

The show went on tour through Texas, is making an appearance at Northwestern and will then continue to travel.

"This project began in November 2013, with the thought that more people could engage and respond to my research on slavery in Texas if it could somehow be translated from a print to a visual medium," Ainsworth said.

Each of the student's work was created with the goal to "recognize the historical moment, appreciate the social and cultural impact of art, re-invision and bring new perspective to the work, and explore the research materials visually," according to Ainsworth in the introduction to his work. Multiple pieces impersonate the appearance of advertisements for missing slaves, while others are portraits and landscape designs.

In correlation with the exhibit, a conference will be held at the Natchitoches Events center on Friday, Feb. 19, and Saturday, Feb. 20.

The speakers will consist of multiple center directors, professors and archivists. Following the presentations, an evening reception will take place in Orville Hanchey Gallery. On Saturday, optional site tours in Natchitoches will be offered.

For more information or to register, students can visit CaneRiverNHA.org. All attendance is free, but advance registration is required.

Review

Film student discusses "Revenant" exhibits mastery of substance and style

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

If you're like me, there are only three reasons to go see "The Revenant."

One, you see every Leonardo film on principle. Two, it's on the Oscars list and you have to be able to keep up with the pretentious Oscars conversations soon to come. And three, everything else on Fandango is a remake and you never got around to seeing the original.

I coincidentally had all three, so I ordered larges of everything and sat down on one of the last empty seats. The previews were a drag – which always plants a seed of doubt – but once it started I knew. This was going to be good.

To preface this, there was no romance. There was no deep internal revelation or funky plot twist. I never even needed the tissue box other than to block the screen when the violence got too real. In other words, this was in no way, shape or form my type of movie. But this, this was special.

The centrifugal force of the film was entirely foreign to me: rage, loss and a need for the ultimate revenge. I've craved revenge but I've always wanted my victims alive, more like the water torture then sudden death. I've never felt that overwhelming need to survive and to kill.

Though I couldn't empathize, I was mesmerized. The clash between blood and snow, death and beauty brought me beyond my Southern place of comfort into the wilderness, feeling the need to stay alive, to stay warm, to climb into that dead horse for shelter.

Yes, the beautiful Leonardo DiCaprio wore a scraggly beard and puss-filled sores while climbing into a dead carcass. He literally ate a raw animal organ just to get the authentic experience. Five hours of make-up per day isn't easy. His performance, while uncomplicated, was characteristically intense and emotionally believable and I think quite deserving of that elusive Oscar.

Tom Hardy, on the other hand, didn't have my complete attention. His lines were often unnaturally macho, like the "little bitch" line near the end, and his voice sounded somewhere between British and Texan. This doesn't diminish the power of film significantly though, and his performance was on the whole worthy of his A-list standing.

I have to throw a shout out to the director as well, Alejandro Gonzalez Inarrito, for displaying the northern wilderness in such beautifully composed shots. He also chose to use long takes in the action scenes, veering from the canonical action-film way of quickly cutting between two or three second shots.

These long takes, his unorthodox angles, and his unapologetic focus on the beauty of the landscape and the reality of violence truly made the film powerful beyond the narrative.

Lastly, I want to throw out one interpretation of the final scene for those of you who have seen the film. So (spoiler alert) read on at your own risk.

Hugh Glass's (Leonardo DiCaprio) story of revenge runs alongside a secondary story of an Indian chieftain whose daughter is kidnapped and raped by Frenchmen. The chief goes in search of his lost daughter and succeeds once Glass has freed her from the Frenchmen.

Anyway, at the end, the chief rides up to Glass and John Fitzgerald (Tom Hardy) with his crew just as Glass is about to strangle Fitzgerald to death. Glass then whispers this line about revenge belonging to God alone and pushes Fitzgerald down the river to the chief, who scalps and kills him. The chief then rides by and looks down emotionless on Glass, injured and alone, without offering him help.

This moment seems to me like a commentary on the role of God and fate in our lives. As my brother so keenly pointed out, the Indian chief can represent God, who stands aloof, not interfering in the circle of life and death but ultimately becoming the great executioner of justice.

This is a possible deeper meaning behind an otherwise fully-externalized epic drama, which maintains excellence even at the most basic level. It is an undeniable success in my book.

Gaydie Hawkins



Photo from Creative Commons

Pride to host more inclusive spin on classic Sadie Hawkins dance

Jacob Farnsley
Copy Editor

Cleverly named after the familiar Sadie Hawkins dance, NSU Pride will be putting on a Gaydie Hawkins dance on Feb. 18 in the Ballroom at 7:30 p.m.

The dance is open for anyone, and tickets are $3 pre-sale and $5 at the door. The dance itself is Mardi Gras Masquerade-themed and the attire is semi-formal. Drinks and finger-foods will be provided. People are encouraged to bring a member of the same sex as their date, but are not required.

In usual Saydie Hawkins fashion, awards will be given out. There will be two kings and queens, cutest couple, best dressed and best hair. Anyone selected for the awards must be an active member in Pride.

Freshman Aleas Williams, a psychology major, stated that she would love to go to the dance.

"I feel like it puts a new feel to the old-timey event," she said. "The Sadie Hawkins dance gave girls the chance to ask boys to the dance, but not the girls who wanted to ask girls or the boys who wants to ask boys. Well, now they are included."

Pride is putting on the Gaydie Hawkins dance as a fundraiser for them to go to the Queer Conference at Louisiana State University in April. This convention is to help them become better leaders and help improve LGBT+ awareness on campus.

"I believe it will raise awareness by destroying the boundary between same sex dates at school functions, Fork Em Demons," freshman theater major and organization member Desmond Moss said.

For pre-sale tickets, contact Pride Secretary and Treasurer Ross Arable at (337)-349-0975.





Dancer Ebony Johnson likes tights for their flexibility, while sophomore Brittany Edwards believes that patterned tights can assist in showing off curves. *Photo by Sheila Humphrey*

Demon Style

Tights: Flattering or Flashy?

Hannah Richardson
Staff Writer & Photographer

They can be a college student's best friend or best fiend.

As long as I've been attending this university, tights and leggings have been a staple item in the wardrobe of myself, my friends and others I've seen around campus.

They're just so comfortable and form-fitting that it's easy to see why they're popular, especially when they come in a variety of different patterns and designs.

Senior theater arts major Ebony Johnson is a big fan of this trend.

"You can just slip them on," Johnson said. "You don't have to think too much about what you're going to wear. I'm a dancer, so I really need them. I can wear them to rehearsal and around campus."

Dressed in a pair of galaxy-patterned tights, she says they might be too flashy, but it's definitely not a bad thing.

"I think that if you want to accent the curves on your legs, different colors and patterns will make those curves on your body pop more," sophomore biology major Brittany Edwards said. "I don't think they're flashy at all. They're something that anyone can pull off, and they're comfortable."

If you've got it, flaunt it! If you want to wear leggings or tights with crazy patterns and designs or a pair with neutral colors, feel free to do so. If anyone tells you otherwise, then just walk away in your flashy and flattering tights.



President Henderson and freshman Bryce Tucker pie each other in true Demon spirit during event to raise money for music education. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

President pied for cause, pies back for the laugh

An-Gel Samuel
Staff Writer & Opinions Editor

President Jim Henderson took a pie to the face for a good cause, and got to return the favor.

"This isn't for my entertainment," Henderson said. "I have no idea what this is for; I just heard it was for a good cause. I don't think they would lie to me about this."

Students purchased $1 raffle tickets for a chance to "pie the president" outside of the Creative and Performing Arts Department on Feb. 5.

The event raised funds to allow teachers to hold panels and help students go out to schools to assist local band programs. Senior Tiffany Johnson, a music education major, put the event together, and the National Association for Music Education hosted the event.

As the contest began, Henderson said he was a little uneasy about it and was questioning his prior decision to take a pie to the face.

"What in the world was I thinking about bringing apple pie," Henderson said.

But he had something up his sleeve. The first ticket drawn actually belonged to Henderson, and he admitted that he purchased about 40 tickets before the event started.

"Moral of the story is don't trust the pie man."
- Junior Cedric Simpson

Since he drew himself, he was able to choose who would pie him. Instead of that, he turned the tables and threw a pie on someone other than himself.

Junior Cedric Simpson, a criminal justice major, said it was very exciting to see the president so into the event.

"Moral of the story is don't trust the pie man," Simpson said.

Junior Mark Payton, a vocal performance major, said he enjoyed seeing this side of the president.

"This reminds me of how personable our president is and of one of the perks of going to a smaller college, because you get to personally know the president," Payton said.

"The event was hilarious and very fun to see the president have fun and pie the other students," Sophomore Taylor Henderson said. "I like how he interacts with the students, and it's nice to see he was the focal point of a fundraiser. It lets us know that he cares."

After all was said and done, Henderson said it was the best fundraiser he had ever been too. On April 9, NAFME will also host a 5K run here on campus. All the proceeds will go to the top three schools to help their programs and allow them to buy instruments or sound systems to better their education, Johnson said. She hopes it will succeed as well.

Moodle v. Pen & Paper

Airrol Angelle
Staff Writer

Not every professor at NSU is ready to accept Moodle. They may find it tedious to set up or bothersome to keep up with, so some only use it to post midterm and final grades.

In response to this resistance to change, three pro-Moodle professors gave their reasons for why Moodle is beneficial to both professors and students.

Art history professor Phyllis Lear uses Moodle to get students creatively involved by requiring them to post pictures with the artist at art shows. Lear stated that this helps the student develop networking skills, since they have to introduce themselves before taking a picture.

Lear remembers how in the past professors would have sign-in sheets at the shows. Commonly, the sheets would get lost or misplaced.

Lear said that before Moodle, lots of assignments would get lost or misplaced and students would rarely have a digital copy to replace the missing assignment. Scholars' College professor Dr. Margaret Cochran remembers offices filled with stacks of papers and students handing things in late – thinking professors would be able to keep track of it. Both Cochran and Lear say that the organization and environmental benefits of Moodle are obvious.

Another reason these three professors appreciate digital copies is that they are usually spellchecked. School of Business director Dr. Margaret Kilcoyne said that students will appreciate digital copies once they have to start sending out multiple portfolios while career seeking.

Kilcoyne records many of her lectures on her phone to upload later to Moodle. She started doing this after she received many messages from students wishing they could somehow "replay" the lesson when they returned home to start their homework. She takes meeting the needs of students seriously, and Moodle helps her accomplish this.

When Lear was weighing the pros and cons of using Moodle, she took into consideration the special needs of some students. Videos with captions or PowerPoints with sound can be uploaded to Moodle. Students with seeing and hearing impairments are able to see or hear the lesson at a level more suitable for them. Also, Moodle is mobile and can be brought into any tutoring center with Wi-Fi.

Cochran, Kilcoyne and Lear understand that the mobility of Moodle is one of its most important aspects. The growth of online learning has been surpassing the growth of classroom learning for the past 10 years, according to USA News. Cochran, Kilcoyne and Lear already have experienced the ease of transforming some of their on-site classes to online classes using Moodle.

They agree that without Moodle, that task would have been much more difficult. Their advice to the professors who are not yet on board with Moodle is to take the time to perfect their Moodle shells now, as it will save them time later as the demand for online classes increases

Lear also pointed out that Moodle can reduce the level of anxiety students often feel. Students will feel more prepared for tests because they can review every lesson on Moodle. Multiple choice quizzes and tests made on Moodle also allow the students taking them to receive immediate feedback. Kilcoyne explained that actively lowering student anxiety increases student retention.

Whether professors credit their resistance to apathy, low tech-esteem or nostalgia for the good old days of pen and paper, changes to the college learning environment are here to stay, and Moodle promises to be a necessity among them.

NS 'U' Voice

What is your strangest phobia?

Brieanna Cowher



Freshman
General Studies

"My weirdest phobia is Styrofoam when it rubs together."

Terrencia Polk



Senior
Graphic Design

"My biggest fear is spiders and I hate when I'm in a small room with a lot of people."

Alyssa Lloid



Sophomore
Elementary Education

"I have a fear of water that I cannot see or touch the bottom of."

Braxton Hogan



Junior
Musical Theatre

"I'm afraid of needles."

Photos by Clarisee Gaucel

Current Sauce discusses legal and ethical boundaries

Editorial Board

As editors of a public news source, we must consistently make judgment calls on what to publish, which often results in a painstaking discussion in the newsroom on Tuesday nights. We decided to be transparent about this process, both to keep readers informed about what they're reading and to keep ourselves accountable.

The first question we must ask is whether it's legal. Our legal obligations are as follows:

1. To publish only the truth
2. Not to plagiarize

These are, in effect, our only legal obligations. The rest is all a matter of ethics. Once we have determined that something is true and fair use, we must then ask the question of whether it's ethical. The most important thing to consider at this stage is our duty as journalists.

This duty is to protect no interest other than an interest in the truth for the benefit of the public. We also have the sobering duty of holding both individuals and institutions accountable for their actions. This is the foundation of good journalism and is essential to keeping the powers that be in check, on a national and local level.

Freedom of the press is guaranteed to U.S. citizens in the First Amendment of the Constitution. In addition to this, the United Nations published the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" (UDHR), which confirms this right in Article 19.

"Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression," according to the UDHR. "This right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference, and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

In other words, it is not only our legal right to publish material that could reflect negatively on any individual or institution, it is our ethical duty, though we must run it through one final stage of questioning:

1. Is it 100 percent true and verifiable from the most qualified sources available?

2. Does this single out an individual - who is not a public figure and has not been arrested - in a way that harms his or her well-being unjustifiably or amounts to bullying?

3. Does publishing this information serve any secondary interest contrary to our duty to inform students and faculty unbiasedly?

The Current Sauce will not publish information for the sole purpose of attacking individuals or groups. We do this in order to avoid defamation in the legal sense of the word and the ethical sense. We encourage writers to discuss ethical questions with other staff members and faculty advisors.

To uphold our legal and ethical obligations, all news stories, previews and features should not contain the writers' bias, though quoted material may convey the bias of an interviewee. Writers should strive to quote sources from every side of an issue and report them without prejudice.

Opinions published by The Current Sauce represent the individual writer, not the opinion of the staff. Editorials like this one, on the other hand, do represent the opinion of the staff as a whole.

Whether it be a news stories, a feature story, a preview or an opinions piece, our duty is to present the information in a way that is true to the facts. Although in opinions pieces writers have the freedom to speak from their perspective, they still must qualify that opinion with a well-defended argument.

We do recognize that each story is unavoidably told from a person, who must make a choice of which facts and quotes to highlight out of the numerous possibilities. We must, therefore, strive to mitigate this by consistently coming back to our ethical and legal obligations.

Our goal is not to mold public opinion, but to provide the necessary information for students and faculty to form this opinion.

The editor-in-chief confirms any questionable legal decisions with the Student Press Law Center. Any questionable ethical decisions are discussed with the editorial staff and faculty advisors as necessary. Copy editors also fact check each story, and information will not be published if it contains any unanswered legal or ethical questions.

All staff members are encouraged to refer to the "Associated Collegiate Press Model Code of Ethics for Collegiate Journalists" as a detailed guideline for ethical decisions. Readers' additional comments or concerns not addressed in this guideline should be emailed to thecurrentsauce@gmail.com.

Screw the gender stereotypes set by society

Jacob Farnsley
Copy Editor

"I love your nails" is not usually a statement said to a boy. However, many boys around campus have started to paint their nails, myself being one of them. I personally think that having my nails painted is a subtle way to express myself a little bit more. Plus designs on nails are cool as hell, but why does this seem to shock some people?

In today's society, we have something called a gender stereotype, where men are supposed to do things that men do and women are supposed to do things that women do. The way I see it, these ideas need to be thrown out the damn window.

Even though research shows that people who don't adhere to these stereotypes are more likely to fall victim to "physical, emotional and relational aggression." I think that these numbers don't stop myself and others from fully expressing the people that we are.

Especially on days that I have ballet, I'll walk around campus in tights. Although it's not an uncommon thing to see around CAPA, other places on campus might grant me some strange looks. Anyone who has ever worn tights knows that they are comfortable as a cloud, plus they make your legs look damn good. Who doesn't want their legs to look amazing?

Now, tights have been a controversial topic since they have become popular, the argument being that tights should not be worn as pants and that they are too revealing. It's especially weird to see a boy walking to class in printed tights and not thinking twice about it, but that's the way that I like to dress. I think that the girl coming to class in sweatpants is the same as me coming to class in tights. I just want to be comfortable while I get my attendance grade and watch Netflix in the back corner.



It's 2016 people. Do we really not expect people to fully express themselves? I see people walk around campus with crazy-colored hair and outlandish fashion choices, and no one bats an eye. Yet a boy in tights and painted nails is something to stare at and ridicule. See a problem?

Altering these gender stereotyping would let people express who they fully are. I know from personal experience about being afraid to express myself because of what other would think or say. But once I finally started to just do the things that I have wanted to do, my self confidence has gone up drastically. Everyone deserves that.

While many people won't agree with me, I think that this is something that needs to be brought up in society and shown as a problem. Expressing myself should be something that is appreciated, not frowned upon.

Students managing Facebook concerns page need accountabilitly

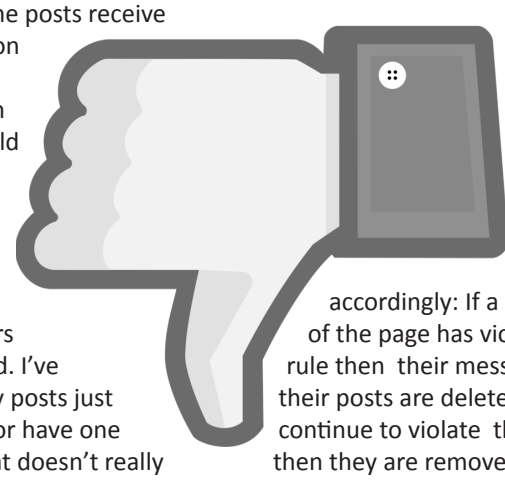
Bria Williams
Staff Writer

Marissa McMickens, an NSU student, wrote on the Northwestern State Student Concerns Facebook page. "Maybe I missed the memo, but the door and website clearly states that it opens at 4 and yet it is not open right now..." McMickens said.

Twenty-nine people liked the post, one student commented regarding a similar personal experience with the C-store, and another commented "#StopSodexo2016."

The Student Concerns page is a closed Facebook Group for NSU students. The purpose of the page is to allow the Student Government Association to address the concerns that are not announced in the meetings, although some posts receive more attention than others.

This uneven coverage could be avoided if more faculty and administrators were involved. I've seen so many posts just get ignored or have one comment that doesn't really help at all. But then the concerns that get the most attention, or are the most controversial, are the only ones I ever see get answered.



When controversial issues do appear on the page, the SGA handles the situation accordingly: If a member of the page has violated a rule then their messages and their posts are deleted. If they continue to violate the rules then they are removed from the page. Many students have been removed this past year after a serious of controversial media storms that escalated on the concerns page.

During those public relations nightmares as well as business-as-usual days, SGA collects the concerns posted on the page and tries to make positive changes on campus that will affect the student body as a whole.

The page is controlled by a few SGA cabinet members and is strictly run by the students. Students post about problems with Moodle, frustrations with student housing or questions regarding changes to the state budget especially in regards to things like TOPS (Taylor Opportunity Program for Students).

"Almost every question I've personally posted has received answers or comments almost immediately," junior Courtney Page said. "Most of the replies I got on the one about TOPS were very helpful and made me calm down about the whole situation."

SGA Vice President Chantasia Grasty believes the page has been a beneficial way to handle student concerns, especially in a society where people flock to social media.

"We can address concerns a little bit quicker because we get various input from not only students but professors," Grasty said.

All in all, the student concerns page provides a very useful service to students, but the controversy over the way the page is monitored could be contained much more effectively if the students who run the page had some accountability from NSU faculty.

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Theater hosts ‘Illumination of Dance’ triage

Josh Fontenot
Staff Writer

The dance department will explore various aspects of life through their expression in dance in the "Illumination of Dance" concert on Feb. 18-20 in A. A. Frederick's Auditorium.

The dance will explore both the positive and negative, leaving the only true interpretation up to each individual audience member as a reflection of the reality of life.

The production will involve three pieces, which will include “The Red Thread,” a contemporary ballet number choreographed by Kirstin Riehl, “Belle Élan Vital,” a tap and contemporary piece choreographed by Rebecca Morgan and “Abandonment,” a modern number choreographed by Brett Alan Garfinkel.

“One of the best parts of this production is that we were able to collaborate with Zephan Ellenbogen, a lighting designer from New York,” Garfinkel said. “The pieces are centered around how the light itself affects the dance and creates a relationship.”

The dance department will also be able to utilize their brand new white Marley floor, purchased with a tech grant obtained last year.

Morgan stated that the most difficult part of putting the production together in such a short period was managing time.

“As choreographers, when you feel the pressure of a deadline it forces you to get creative quickly and be spontaneous,” Riehl said.

The production is the main focus of the dance majors’ semester, meaning it is their time to shine.

Junior Annie Dauzat from Baton Rouge is involved in all three pieces and could not stress enough how ready she is to showcase the production to the audience.

“We only had five weeks to put the show together,” Dauzat said. “ The rehearsals are tedious, and we’re pushing our bodies to the limits for hours each day, but the outcome makes it beyond worth it.”

Performance time for the Northwestern Theatre and Dance production is 7:30 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on Feb. 20. Tickets are $15 and $12 for children and seniors. Northwestern State, BPCC@NSU and Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts students are admitted free with a current student I.D.







The top right: As the dance gets heated, Katherine Langlois and Joshua DeAlba partnered in “Belle Élan Vital.” To the Left: DeAngelo Renard-Boutté (left) and Luke Matherne (right) tap dance for the first number. To the right: As the lights shines, Hannah Hays taps the night away. The bottom right: The first number is about to close as the cast begin to finish it all out.

Photos by Steven Sheerin





THE CURRENTSAUCE

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Who will *suffer*?

Students discuss impact of potential budget cuts

BRIA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The Taylor Opportunity Program (TOPS)— which was set to fund around 50,000 Louisiana students this current academic year — is on the chopping block this legislative session.

TOPS threatens to become much more competitive and receive less funding, dramatically reducing its number of scholarship recipients. In response to the budget crisis, NSU students share how they would be affected by the coming changes.

"I would not be able to live by myself," Morgan Humphries, a junior in the theatre department, said. If TOPS were to suddenly be unavailable, Humphries would not be able to pay for rent, forcing her to move back home.

"I don't want to commute every day [...] because I'm a theatre major, with rehearsals until 10 p.m.; I wouldn't get home until midnight," Humphries said.

Freshman theatre major Dwight Robinette said it would cause serious strain on his family to continue to fund his education.

"It would definitely make things harder for my family and I," Robinette said.

If things go south, Robinette would try to find a job. But, with a schedule packed with rehearsals every day, working may be impossible. Robinette does have family support, however.

Though they admit not receiving TOPS funding would make life much more difficult, both Humphries and Robinette receive theater scholarships provided not by the state but by the university, which is becoming more and more self-funded.

Humphries also receives the outstanding student award and academic excellence scholarships, while Robinette receives a Natchitoches City Housing Scholarship.

"NSU does give a lot," Humphries said. The university offers a host of scholarships rewarding academic performance, leadership potential and athletic performance, in addition to numerous departmental scholarships.

Other students, like Hayley Leboeuf a senior hospititality, management, and tourism major, do not have the luxury of other scholarships to fall back on. For Leboeuf, TOPS is the only scholarship she receives. She has run out of options when it comes to paying for school.

> "Without TOPS I would not have been able to attend college."
> - **Senior Hayley Lebouf**

"I already take out my maximum amount in subsidized loans every year to be able to pay for school," she said. "I cannot afford to pay for college on my own. Without TOPS, I would not have been able to attend college."

Senior social work major TJ Gorham, on the other hand, said he would hardly be affected if TOPS were eliminated completely.

"I'm not heavily dependent on TOPS," Gorham said. "My life wouldn't change much."

Gorham came into college with over 10 different scholarships and grants. One scholarship Gorham received was valued at $10,000. Gorham was empathetic to students with a different situation, however, who may be greatly impacted by funding cuts.

"You never know what financial burdens others may have," he said. With one semester left in his undergraduate college career, student loans would be a last resort if he was in sudden financial distress. His parents would come to his aid if necessary.

If the state government does not make immediate and effective decisions about the budget, some students may have to reconsider if getting a college degree is an attainable goal at all, while others will stay afloat with help from parents and from NSU's many privately funded scholarships.

Students may contact state legislators through the following link: **https://www.legis.la.gov/legis/FindMyLegislators.aspx**



Walking down The Purple Line, senator and president of Alpha Phi Alpha, TJ Gorham, looks for inspiration to help students and improve NSU. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

TOPS ACT requirement may jump to 27

State Commisioner of Higher Education comments on possible cuts stemming from state budget deficit

JOSHUA FONTENOT
Staff Writer

The Taylor Opportunity Program for Stutdents — TOPS — could now be funded solely by the tobacco industry, and ACT requirements may jump as high as 27, the State Commisioner of Higher Education said during a public forum in Alexandria Feb. 19.

The forum followed Governor John Bel Edwards' recent announcement that higher education and healthcare would suffer devastating cuts in state funding if taxes are not adequately raised.

Jim Clinton, CEO and local entrepreneur, spoke alongside a number of community members in the opening ceremonies, calling for protection of higher education funding at the expense of tax increases.

"We're doing a lot of things right, but it is time for us to grow and make our plans effective," Clinton said.

He went on to state that many are willing to do whatever it takes to see that higher education gets the funding it deserves, and rightly so.

"Tax us; hit us hard, but give us an educational community that we can be proud of," he said.

Another speaker, Cenla Chamber of Commerce President Deborah Randolph, could not stress her concern for students enough. She stated that the 44 percent cut on Louisiana's higher education is the highest in the nation and that reforms have been avoided for far too long.

"The Chamber refuses to make these cuts," she said.

Community figure Roy O. Martin claimed that his office is filled with graduates from Northwestern State University and graduates in all of the surrounding areas. Martin said that they provide nothing but the best work for his company.

"Tax us; hit us hard, but give us an educational community that we can be proud of."

Martin then introduced the event's main speaker, Commissioner of Higher Education Dr. Joseph C. Rallo.

"Last year, this man was thrown into the pits of inequity and has done all he possibly could for higher education," Martin said.

Commissioner Rallo stressed the importance of community involvement in enacting change to the current system.

"We must do something, and it must be done quickly, or these budget cuts will happen," Rallo stated. Rallo touched on potential course reductions, stating that the Louisiana State University Agricultural program—a statistically effective, strong program with a significant local job market—will be among the first to go when its funding runs out in late April.

"By March 9 of this year, if there is no clear plan we will see the cancellation of classes and lay offs begin to happen," The Commisioner affirmed.

Rallo then spoke about one of the most devastating cuts education will face: cuts to TOPS. "TOPS will not be cut completely," he said. "Instead, the amount of money provided for the program will drastically decrease."

This monetary decrease means that the state will no longer put access money into the TOPS program. All funding for the program will instead come from a tobacco settlement made in 1999, forcing tobacco companies to pay Louisiana and other states billions each year. The shortage of money will mean fewer students will receive TOPS and the criteria will become stricter.

Rallo stressed that students must now fill out FASFA every semester to even be considered, no questions asked. They will then select students based on stricter guidelines for GPA and ACT scores.

"Looking into next year, the minimum score for TOPS recipients ACT score could go up to a 27," Rallo explained.

Northwestern Student Body President Matthew Whitaker attended the forum and asked Commissioner Rallo what we as a student body can do to help stop this devastating budget crisis.

He responded by urging students to vote for officials that want to solve this crisis and to encourage as many students on our campus to attend the Higher Ed Rally on Feb. 24. NSU's Student Government Association will also hold a letter writing campaign Wednesday, so students may voice their concerns to legislators.



Photo from Creative Commons

24-hour lab closed down

MEG DENNY
News Editor

The Health and Human Performance lab, one of two 24-hour labs NSU houses, is now closed. Student technology coordinator Jennifer Long said the building manager decided to close the lab because students fell asleep in the building long after the last classes finished.

SGA president Matthew Whitaker said that the reason for the shutdown of the lab is "ridiculous" and not the students' fault. "It wouldn't be happening if the police stayed there 24/7," Whitaker said. "We need to put the university police on the spot."

SGA will look into reopening the lab because students pay for it in their fees. Another 24-hour lab open to students is in Russell Hall, Room 101 A. University police were not available to comment on Feb. 23.

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Supreme Court Justice Antonn Scalia died Feb. 13 allegedly of natural causes. Now, many wonder who will fill Scalia's empty seat. President Obama has yet to release the name of his nominee. *Photo from Creative Commons*

Death of a justice: What is next for the Supreme Court?

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

After serving on the Supreme Court for 30 years, Justice Antonin Scalia passed away in his sleep on Feb. 13, leaving the court one justice short. Democrats are eager to fill the void in order to gain power over the court, while Republicans attempt to preserve their majority, arguing that the new judge should be selected by the upcoming president in hopes of a Republican victory.

Obama said he plans to appoint the new judge, according to a Time article, but hasn't made a decision yet, as a Republican-backed Congress threatens to block his selection.

Scalia is most known for his support of originalism — interpreting the Constitution with a focus on original intent — a political theory which made an impact on both Democratic and Republican systems of thought. Scalia became the first justice to die midterm since Robert Jackson in 1954.

The selection process

The selection process is extensive. First, the president presents a list of potential nominees. Those people then go through a series of hearings and trials before a Senate Judiciary Committee. Once the SJC has heard all of the hearings and trials, they select one nominee to appear in front of the full Senate.

Obama will most likely choose a judge with liberal sentiments, the complete opposite of Scalia. If the next nominee has a less conservative way of thinking, the Democratic judges will outnumber the Republican judges. The court is already closely divided, and Obama's nominee could break this divide.

This is not the first time that Obama has had to appoint a justice. In 2009, Obama nominated Elena Kagan, after the announcement of Associate Justice John Paul Stevens' retirement.

She was approved by the Senate and became the 112th Supreme Court Justice and the fourth woman to serve.

Potential nominees

An article from the New York Daily News lists six names rumored to be on Obama's nominee list, though the president has not yet presented his list of nomiees.

With roughly 10 months left in office, Obama doesn't have much time to run his nominee through this extensive process, and the court has already begun functioning one justice short at the start of their current session on Feb. 22.

Rumored nominees

Sri Srinivasan
A D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge

Paul Watford
A Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Judge

David Barron
A First Circuit Court of Appeals Judge

Merrick Garland
Chief Justice of the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit

Loretta Lynch
Became the U.S. Attorney General in April of 2015

Patricia Ann Millett
A D.C. Circuit Judge

SGA minutes

Monday, Feb. 22

•On Wednesday Feb. 24, SGA will take a bus to the Higher Education Day held in Baton Rouge at the state capital. The rally will include concerts, speeches from SGA members throughout Louisiana universities and short speeches from legislators. Senators and students will both travel on the bus to voice their concerns. SGA President Matthew Whitaker wants the NSU participants to enjoy themselves. "Let's be very vocal and have fun with it. Just know that this is a big deal. Let's stand by our NSU letters, and be true Demons," Whitaker said.

•For students who cannot make the bus trip but still wish to voice their concerns, SGA will have a table in the student union on Feb. 24. From 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., students may join SGA in contacting their legislature about the possible higher education cuts.

•SGA will host an academic forum in the library on March 16. Department heads will meet to present students with information on new programs coming to campus.

> **"Let's be very vocal and have fun with it. Just know that this is a big deal. Let's stand by our NSU letters, and be true Demons."**

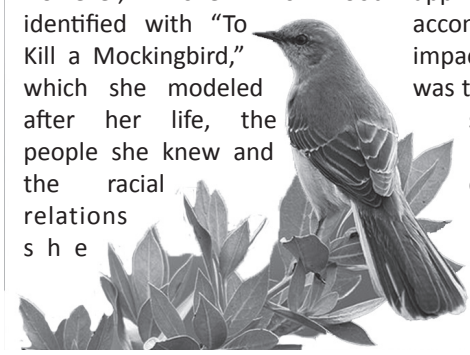
Harper Lee leaves behind a legacy

KIMBERLY MOSIER
Staff Writer

"I wanted you to see what real courage is, instead of getting the idea that real courage is a man with a gun in his hand. It's when you know you're licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and see it through no matter what."

This is a quote from the main character, Atticus Finch, featured in the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel: "To Kill a Mockingbird." Some may also say its meaning is the legacy left behind by its author, Harper Lee, 89, who died in her sleep Feb. 19 in Monroeville, Ala.

Lee only wrote two books. However, she is most identified with "To Kill a Mockingbird," which she modeled after her life, the people she knew and the racial relations she observed in the Deep South during the Jim Crow era.



Khirsten Doolan, an NSU graduate student in English literature, first read "To Kill a Mockingbird" as a sixth grader. She said the novel made her aware of her own privileges while inspiring her to be courageous, to challenge "outdated" ideas and to not be afraid to stand up and speak out against the society where she grew up--one she thought was very much like the one described in the novel.

"Not only did Harper Lee's writing captivate my young mind, but her message lit a fire in me that has only grown," Doolan said describing how Lee's lessons applies to everything she strives to accomplish. She said the biggest impact the novelist had on her life was the awakening that American society "has a long way to go" tolerance-wise and she can help change it.

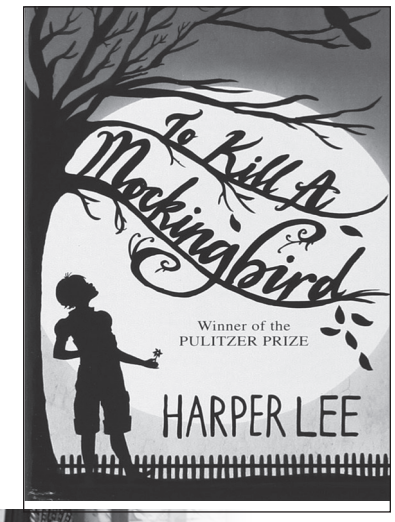
Assistant Professor of Film Studies and Southern Literature Allison Rittmayer said she first read "To Kill a Mockingbird" in the tenth grade and that before she read it the novel was a family favorite.

"What I really remember the most was enjoying being able to talk to my mom about the book, and then watching the movie together and talking about that," Rittmayer said. The personal connection she attributes to the text and the pleasure she held in reading its contents is what she values most about the novel.

Dr. Lisa Abney, professor of English and Southern literature, said she taught "To Kill a Mockingbird" to her students before and they found the novel as interesting as the life Lee lived. She said she likes how Lee reflects the Southern dialect and culture within her writing. Also, she thinks what makes the book "valued," as Southern literature is its documentation of the era which it depicts.

"I think she will, and should be, remembered as a writer who helped the United States see itself — past, present, and future," Rittmayer said. "She made people engage with questions of civil rights and racism who may have otherwise continued to turn a blind eye. It's both a testament to her work, and a reflection on how much room for change there still is that her work is still relevant and powerful today."

According to an article in the Alabama Tribune, a student at Alabama University petitioned his school to rename a building on campus in honor of Harper Lee rather than a former senator who was the leader of the Ku Klux Klan. The decision remains under debate.





DID YOU KNOW?

According to an article on the Smithsonian website, Harper Lee went to the White House to accept the Presidential Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor, from President George W. Bush.

Photo from Creative Commons

Reviewer deems 'Deadpool' film entertaining but highly sanitized

BONNY BACOCCINI
Staff Photographer

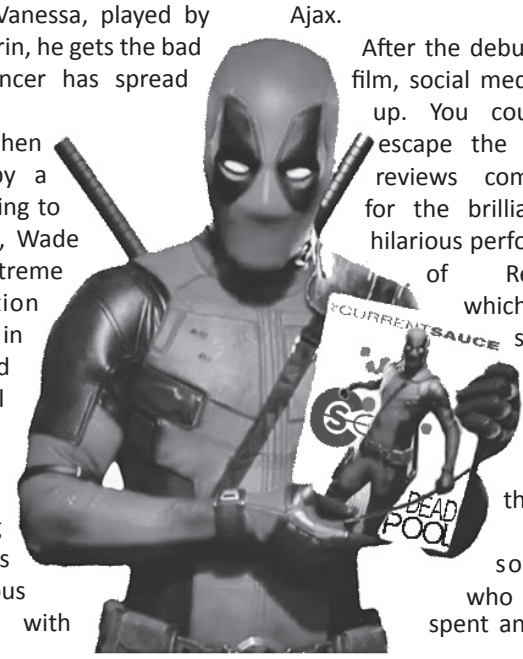
Valentine's weekend marked an important moment in our history: "Deadpool" has premiered. Ryan Reynolds dawns on the legendary red-spandex costume to bring us the long-awaited action/adventure/comedy.

Reynolds has worked tirelessly for almost 11 years to bring this film to the big screens, and it paid off big time. "Deadpool" had the biggest R-rated opening weekend and was the biggest X-Men movie debut ever, according to Forbes Magazine.

The movie has been highly anticipated ever since its announcement, especially the disappointing portrayal of the character in "X-Men Origins: Wolverine" in 2009. Wade Wilson, a.k.a "Deadpool," is the Merc with a Mouth, an antihero Marvel comic book character in the 20th Century Fox cinematic universe.

Wade Wilson is just your regular every day ex-Special Forces operative turned deadly mercenary. It's a love story for the ages. Boy meets hooker. Boy hires hooker to play skee ball. Boy and hooker fall in love.

Just as Wilson promises to make an honest woman out of his love interest Vanessa, played by Morena Baccarin, he gets the bad news that cancer has spread throughout his body. When approached by a stranger claiming to have the cure, Wade undergoes extreme experimentation that results in the mutated ability to heal but also leaves him horribly deformed.



Feeling as if he is too hideous to reconnect with Vanessa, he adopts the alias "Deadpool" and commits to hunt down the man who disfigured him. His lady love gets kidnapped, and then it gets crazy. Along his murderous mission, Deadpool joins forces with X-Men Colossus and Negasonic Teenage Warhead against mutants Angel Dust and Ajax.

After the debut of the film, social media blew up. You could not escape the glowing reviews coming in for the brilliant and hilarious performance of Reynolds, which was no surprise. He was truly born to play this role. As someone who has spent an absurd amount of money and time reading comic books, I am both extremely pleased and somewhat apprehensive of this film. The director, Tim Miller, did a great job incorporating the more identifiable characteristics of Deadpool and his comics.

Breaking the fourth wall is something that runs through his comics without consequence; Deadpool almost always has some kind of repartee with the audience much like he does in the film. Ryan Reynolds did a great job portraying the comical side of Deadpool along with the scary and softer sides.

In the comics, however, Deadpool is an actual insane person, not just a quirky smart mouth like the movie seems to portray him. His insanity was part of his charm. Although no one can deny that this movie doles out the laughs like crazy, there are some that felt the romantic interest angle was unnecessary.

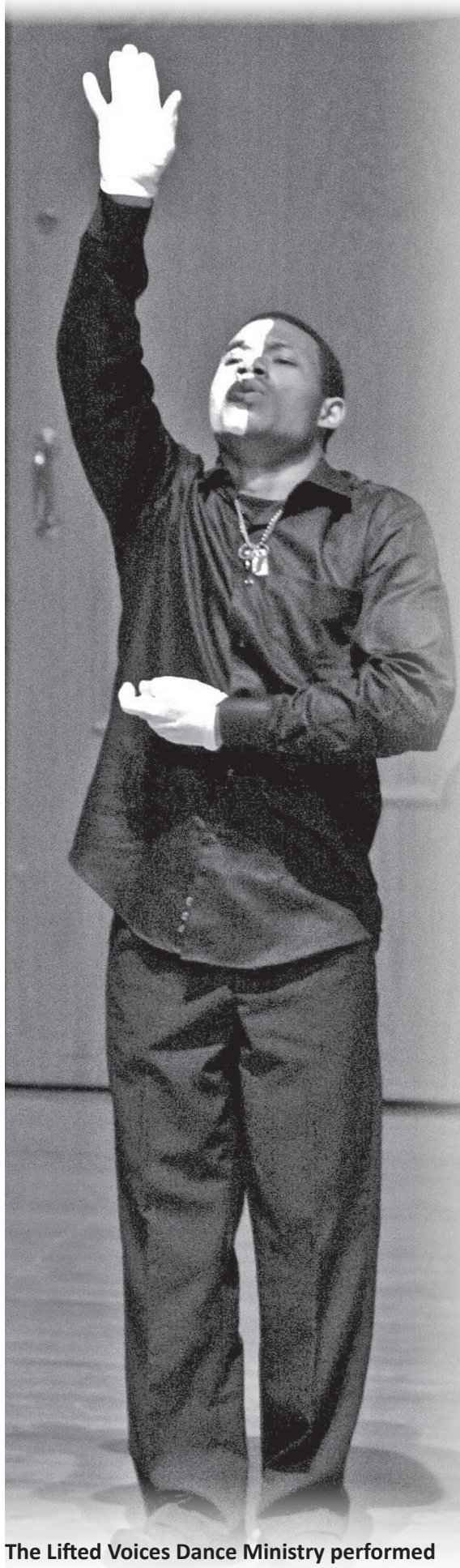
"It was really funny and it had a lot of action but it was also really predictable," senior Trena Camp said. "I wish the girl would have died."

I must agree. It does not feel right for a Deadpool story to just end happy. Maybe we will get more death and carnage in the sequel.

While "Deadpool" is a Marvel Comic, it's not part of the Marvel cinematic universe, like the "Iron Man," "Thor" or "Captain America" franchises. Instead, it is a part of the X-Men franchise owned by 20th Century Fox.

The next extremely anticipated X-Men movie to come out is "X-Men: Age of Apocalypse," set to debut May 2016. We don't know much about what the plot, but the comics deal heavily in alternate realities and altered origins stories. I am very excited and hopeful to see what director Bryan Singer will bring to the screens.

Our lives matter



The Lifted Voices Dance Ministry performed a praise dance at the Helping Hands play.
Photo by Bonny Bacoccini

BRIA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Helping Hands organized a performance highlighting the historical struggles of African Americans by dramatizing modern day incidents that have affected the black community, on Feb. 17 in Magale Recital Hall, in honor of Black History Month.

The play opened as the stage flooded with dancers dressed in all black, moving with the cadence of the words "I will be the one," as a gospel artist sang on a track. The narrator talked about John Purch, the first documented slave, and Massachusetts, the first state to legalize slavery. She scoffed at the validity of the unalienable rights given to American citizens: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.

One incident the group dramatized was the Sandra Bland case, whose heated confrontation with a police officer led to her suicide in jail shortly thereafter.

The narrator described the details of the Bland case while two students performed the conversation caught on camera in the exchange between Bland and a police officer. A video then played, recorded by Bland herself.

Bland responded to comments on her other videos, in which she advocated the Black Lives Matter movement. She differentiated the Black Lives Matter and All Lives Matter movements, and explained her reasoning for supporting the Black Lives Matter movement alone. The narrator then questioned the legitimacy of Bland's arrest and the many other controversial confrontations between black American's and the police in the U.S.

The narrator switched gears to an incident involving teenagers interacting with police officers at a pool party in McKinney, Texas, followed by another viral video. The video showed police using foul language and force to gain control of a situation involving a group of teenagers — majority African American. The audience audibly gasped as the footage showed an officer pulling a teenage girl to the ground.

The narrator came back on stage to recall details of the Travon Martin Case. Students reenacted the events, and the scene ended with a student in a black hoodie lying on the stage after being shot.

The narrator then switched to the shooting in Charleston, S.C., in which a white gunman killed nine black church members one night during service. Students acted as church members singing hymns until another student came in and pretended to shoot the nine actors.

Another student came to center stage belting a hymn of heartache and promise. Members of the Brainy Acts Poetry Society then presented a three-part poem regarding social injustice prevalent in the black community.

The group ended together on the phrase, "If all lives matter, why do we only remember the white ones?"

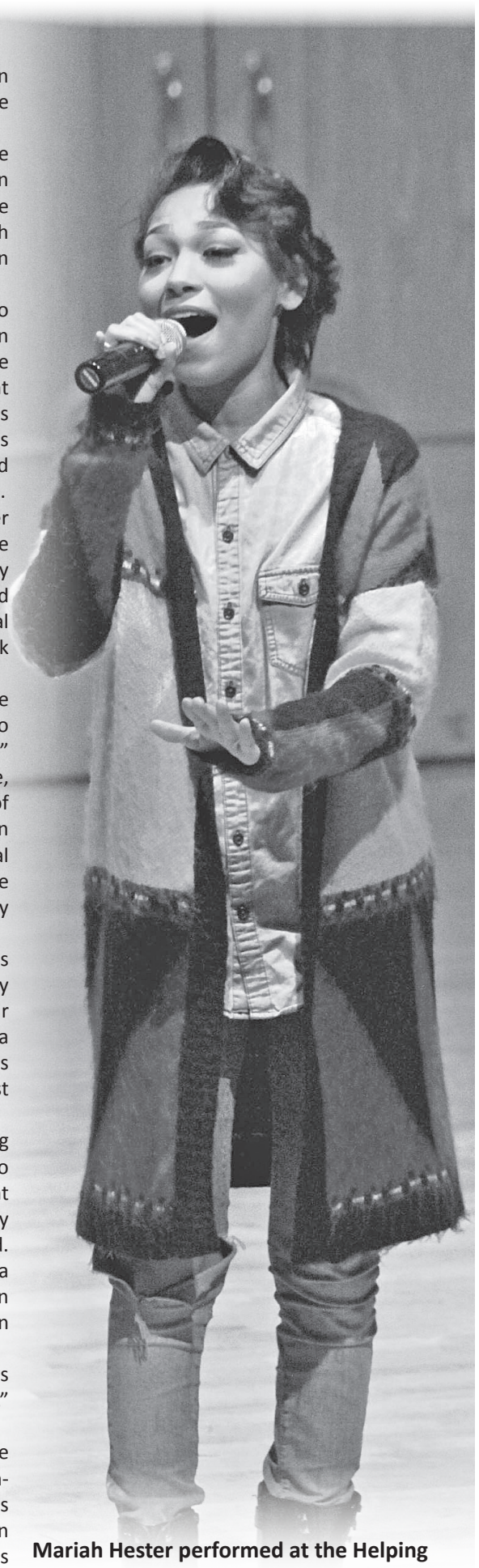
To further localize the performance, a video detailing the history of blackface in cinema then played in response to last semester's social media storm after an NSU athlete dressed in blackface for a university event.

After the video, Lifted Voices gospel choir sang, bringing many members of the audience to their feet and closing the night with a sobering reminder of the struggles of the black community that persist despite apparent advances.

"I wanted to do something different and bring awareness to campus," organization president Briana Craige, a senior psychology and addiction studies major, said. "Hopefully people left with a different mindset so everyone can be more aware of African American culture, and how things affect us."

"It hit a soft spot for the campus […] You could feel the room change," Craige said.

Even though she is of mixed race — Caucasian/Mexican/African-American/Indian — she feels especially close to African American culture. She hopes the audience was enlightened about recent events affecting the black community.



Mariah Hester performed at the Helping Hands' annual Black History Month program.
Photo by Bonny Bacoccini



NSU's debate team attended the eighth annual Eddy Shell Invitational at Bossier Parish Community College. They placed second in After Dinner Speaking (Josephine Amusu), third in Poetry Interpretation (Amusu) and fifth in top speaker award Junior Varsity in IPDA (Ryan Ware). Ware and Hannah Morris reached the quater finals in IPDA. *Photo from Potpourri*



Ya Ya's
Children's Boutique
Beautiful Clothes for Beautiful Children

Demon Style: Dress to impress

HANNAH RICHARDSON
Staff Photographer





(Left) Music Education major Jake English dresses in business casual to prepare for the business world after graduation. (Right) Senior Business Administration major Meisha Landry believes wearing business casual on a regular basis can impress potential employers. *Photos by Hannah Richardson*

"Dress for the job you want, not the job you have" is a motto I'm sure you've all heard before.

Hoodies and sweats are acceptable (this *is* college after all), but it can pay off to wear business or business casual attire on campus. The way we dress has a huge impact on the way we see ourselves and, in turn, the way we perform publicly.

Wearing your best professional attire while in college can also help ease the transition from college life to the "real world."

Not to mention, dressing in business or business casual while attending college could get you used to wearing that kind of attire if your future career requires it.

With grad fest and career fest last week, I'm sure many of us that attended were reminded that life after college isn't so far away. It's important that we have this time while in college to figure out exactly what we want to do with our lives, so it should be just as important to dress for the part.

Music Education major Jake English may only be in his first year in college, but he believes it's important to dress in business attire while attending college.

"I've been dressing in business attire since high school," he said. "It's a very good way to get you ready for going out into the work force." English also believes that dressing in business attire can give you a sense of what the real world is like.

Senior Business Administration major Meisha Landry knows how vital it is to give off a good impression to potential employers. She also believes wearing business or business casual while in college can help you mentally prepare for where you want to be in life.

"The job that I will have after I graduate doesn't really require business attire, but I still want to dress up at work," she said.

College is a place for learning, so dressing formally all of the time isn't all that necessary. However, dressing in business or business casual attire while in college can give you the initiative to become a responsible adult. Dress for success and to impress!

SAB presents annual Vegas Night

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

Come join the Student Activities Board as they transform the union ballroom into a casino for Vegas night on Feb. 25 from 7-10 p.m. This event is free to all students, but they must have an NSU ID with the current sticker to get in.

SAB members will come together, dressed in classic Vegas-style attire, to deal cards and act as casino staff. Daiquiris will be provided by Maggio's, however they will be virgin daiquiris.

Food will also be provided by Sodexo. Students will play classic Vegas games such as blackjack, craps, slot machines, roulette and Texas Hold'em.

SAB members Noah Baudoin and Olivia Guidry explained the official house rules:

"You start with $1000 in the form of poker chips. At the casino games, you pay to play and either win money or lose money. When you're done, you exchange your winnings for tickets. You then put those tickets in a drawing for the prize of your choice."

Each ticket is valued at $500 in chips. Prizes that are available to win include the following: Beats wireless headphones, a massage chair, earring & necklace set, a Nike gift card and several nights out gift packs with vouchers for different restaurants around Natchitoches, along with numerous other prizes.

SAB also hired a pianist to play music for the evening to help set the authentic Vegas mood. Students can also document their night in "Vegas" by taking pictures in the photo booth. NSU's own Make Your Own Theatre group will perform at the event as well.

From artists to NSU

Ribbon cutting ceremony showcases 'labor of love'

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

"This began with some ideas," art department chair, Matt DeFord, said during the ribbon cutting ceremony for NSU's new mosaic tile wall mural outside the union.

The new mural is an aesthetic, functional addition to campus that involved the work of several students, faculty and sponsors, providing an outside seating area under a student-designed mural. The ribbon cutting ceremony was held Wednesday morning, Feb. 17.

During the ceremony, DeFord thanked each hand involved in the creation of the mural. He emphasized the importance of art in schools and communities.

"This is symbolic of the life of Northwestern State University that comes from our faculty," NSU President Dr. Jim Henderson said at the ceremony. "You see, this represents creativity. It represents innovation. It represents the power of faculty and students and community and all of the supporters and the beauty they can create if you empower them to do so."

Each of those working on the mural submitted potential designs. When judged, NSU student Angela Gourdon's design was chosen, and soon became the entire wall. She was an undergrad when her design was approved but is now a graduate student. The image is a scene of Chaplin Lake. The mural showcases various plants and animals found in the marshy areas around the lake.

Leslie Gruesbeck, art professor and Hanchey Gallery director explained the theme:

"The theme of the mural focuses on the beauty of the natural world on our campus. Part of our hope was to extend the beauty of the green areas on campus to this very hard, concrete area."

The design and tile making began in August 2015. The design includes the use of handmade tiles, mirrored tiles, donated tiles and bottles. The process included students and faculty designing, molding and creating various textured, detailed tiles.

"My involvement was through the entire process, from making the tile, glazing the tile, sticking it on and grouting it," junior art major Brandon Melonçon. "I worked during and after classes, week days and weekends."

Faculty involved include Leslie Gruesbeck, Corbin Covher and Matt DeFord. Gruesbeck commented on the hard work of each individual involved in the mural's making. She appreciates the volunteers who worked on the piece and the support they received from the volunteers, sponsors and the administration.

"It was a labor of love aimed at everyone associated with Northwestern — students, faculty, staff, alums, future Demons, the members of our community — and was a terrific experience," Gruesbeck stated.

Covher, an art professor, created the mold of a live oak tree used for both bark and leaf tiles of the tree.

Guest artist Mark Derby, a professional New Orleans tile maker, helped create the alma mater in tiles, which was funded by the Cane River National Heritage Area. Derby gave the students workshops on how to make tile, put tile up and to grout. Derby is the owner of Derby Pottery and is known for his blue and gold tiled street signs on several sidewalks in New Orleans.

Other sponsors include NSU's School of Creative and Performing Arts, Coca-Cola, Sodexo, Home Depot, Creative Carpets and Pat Williams Construction.

About 75 students from NSU Elementary Lab, NSU Middle Lab, Natchitoches Magnet, the Louisiana School for Math, Science, and the Arts and Bossier Parish Community College also helped with the mural.

"I like the fact that the mural will be there for years to come and maybe way down the line I'll be able to come back and see that something I've done is still here," Melonçon said.



Matt DeFord, while joking with vollunteers and President Henderson, prepares to cut the ribbon. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*



Art students and faculty alike contributed to the assembly of the new mural. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

Acclaimed filmmaker returns to Northwestern

BRIA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

Coordinator of Theatre and Dance, Scott Burrell, tells of Del Shores' accomplishments, "He's won tons of awards," and he has.

His biography on delshores.com is packed with awards and nominations for writing, directing and producing. He has had sold out shows across the country. Film versions of his plays have also grossed over $1 million, and on Feb. 26 he will be performing at NSU.

This will not be Shores' first time at NSU. About three years ago, he visited the campus to teach workshops for a few days. According to Burrell, Shores was a hit amongst students, so his second appearance should also be well received.

This time around, the actor/director/producer will spend a week in Natchitoches, sitting in on more Creative and Performative Arts classes and teaching two workshops about working for camera. His visit will culminate with a performance of his one man show, "Sordid Stories."

"Sordid Stories" is described as hilarious, honest and full of adult content. Shores is known to be very outspoken for LGBT rights, and, when his production was converted into a TV series, it was premiered on the LOGO network. The series became the station's biggest hit to date.

Shores' is a national sensation and is well-versed in stage and film performance. Since his shows are usually sold out, students should arrive to A.A. Frederick's before 7:30 p.m. to grab a good seat.



Photo from Shore's website

‘The real NSU’

Demons wax the floor with Colonels, winning 81-67

Brian Cook
Sports Writer

The Demon crowd played a huge part in Monday night’s win as they helped lift the Demons to an 81-67 victory of the visiting Nicholls State Colonels. The Demons (8-17, 5-10) defense caused an uproar as they forced 29 turnovers, including 17 steals throughout the night, leaving their mark as being ‘the real NSU.’

“I just think our team out hustled them,” head coach Mike McConathy said. “We got in the passing lanes and caused them to make a lot of bad passes where they threw the ball away.”

Before the game, Coach McConathy made his players stand up, stretch their arms out and hold brooms to make them understand how much space they covered while on the floor together. He described it as being “one of those pictures that are worth a thousand words moments,” as it proved to work for the team.

Guard Zeek Woodley was one of the emerging leaders late in the second half. He only accounted for five points going into halftime then quickly began to dominate, taking over on the offensive side and going 9-17 with 23 points, in addition to three steals and two rebounds. His 23 points included a few dunks and put backs along with a fade away jumper over the Colonels 7’ foot defender, who McConathy referred to as “a talented kid.”

“I didn’t think I played as good in the first half as I should’ve,” Woodley said. “I felt that in the second half I needed to pick up and be more aggressive to get the ball more to help my team win.”

Other notable players were Matt Killian and Sabri Thompson, who were energized throughout the night on both sides of the court. Killian ended with seven points, three steals and three rebounds – including two offensive boards late in the second half to keep the ball in the Demons hands as time ran down. Thompson’s 14 points was the second highest scored of the night. He had three assists with a team high of six total rebounds.

The Demons went into halftime up by 15 points, but they came out struggling. During the first eight minutes of the second half, the Colonels managed to hold the Demons as they caught up and exchanged a few leads. The Demons then went on a 12-0 run followed by a 21-6 run to end the game with a victory.

“We played really good, sound basketball,” McConathy said. “We played our game the first half, but they made us play their game early in the second half. We learned how to play through difficult spots as we responded with two scoring runs.”

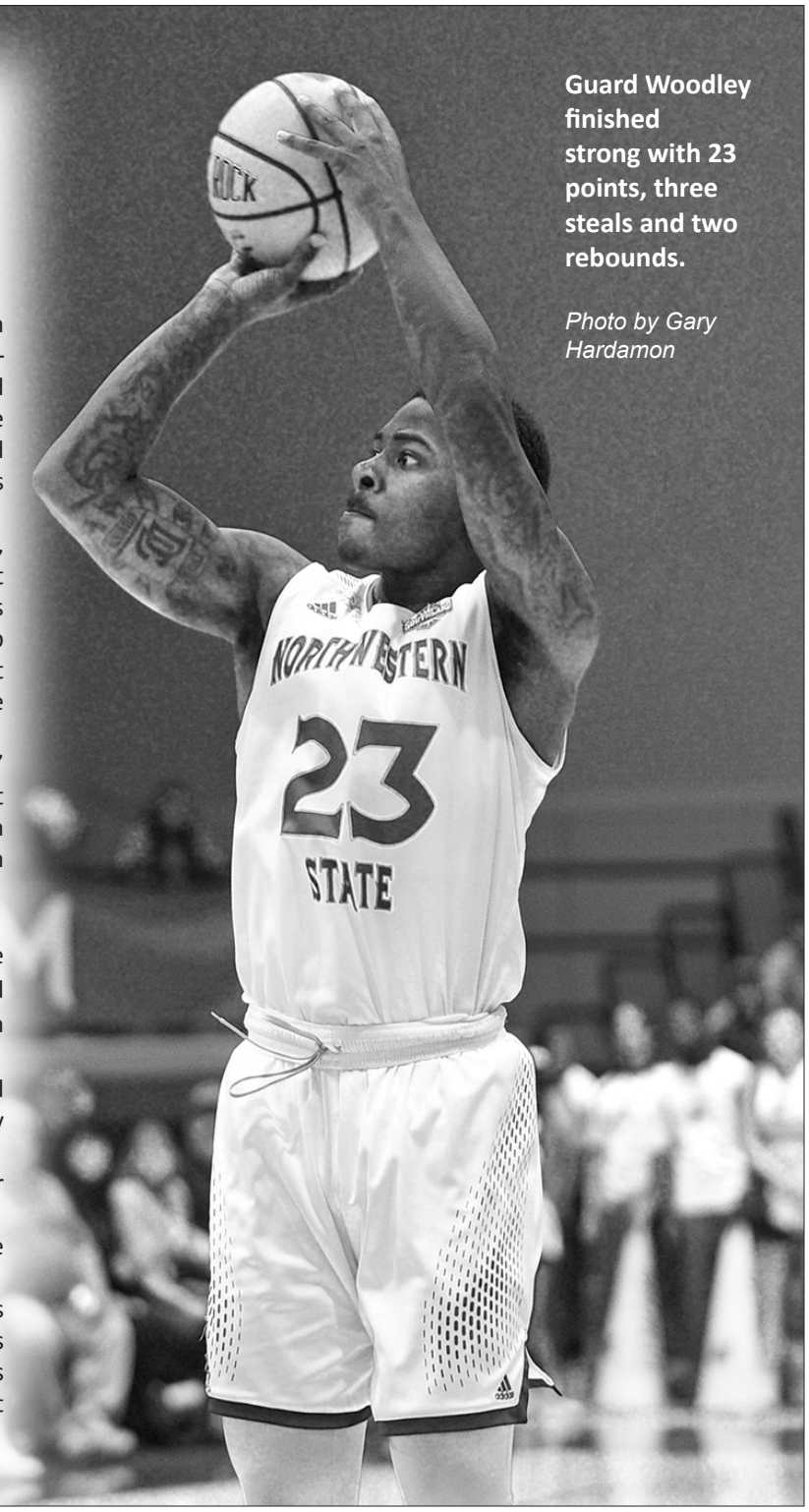
Both McConathy and Woodley appreciated the crowd for keeping the Demons hyped and fired up during the game. A total of 1,923 fans were in attendance to help cheer on the Demons.

“Every time they turned over the ball, the crowd went crazy,” Woodley explained. “That really helped us a lot with momentum.”

Coach McConathy appreciated the fans for showing up to a late start and sticking through.

“It makes me feel good to see the people come out and enjoy the game,” McConathy said.

NSU is one of five teams scrambling for four spots in next month’s conference tournament. NSU plays at Southeastern Louisiana next Monday and hosts Stephen F. Austin on Thursday, March 3, in the last Prather Coliseum game of the season.



Guard Woodley finished strong with 23 points, three steals and two rebounds.

Photo by Gary Hardamon

Demon baseball sweeps Hornets in opening series

Jacob Hicks
Sports Editor

Get out the broomsticks people. Northwestern State swept out Alabama State University, winning all three games in their opening series. It was a dominate performance from the Demon basebal team, showing that they can win both nail-biters, shootouts and defense-ridden games.

In their season opener against the Hornets, it was an offensive struggle for both teams, with neither of them getting a single score in during regular innings. NSU even had runners at second and third with just one out in the 7th inning, but were not able to bring it in. It was only after Daniel Garner’s sacrifice fly ball in the 11th inning to bring home Cort Brinson from third plate, and to secure their opening game, 1-0.

The second of the three games went a little bit different.

After only scoring one run in 11 innings, the Demons had two back to back two run innings in the second and third. David Fry stood out with two hits, two RBI’s, and a run. The team had some great pitching as well from right-handers Jeffery Stovall and Tim Winders, who had six strike outs each, and only allowed two runs, winning the game 4-2.

With the series already won, the third game was a straight shootout. By the time the second inning had ended, the game was already at 4-3, NSU. The defense were struggling for both teams to say the least.

By the 6th inning, the Demons had pretty much wrapped it up, outscoring the Hornets 2-1 in the inning and 7-4 for the game. After a mis handle of the ball by the catcher Chris Biocic, the Demons were able to capitalize, stealing 3rd and home, and eventually winning the game, 8-4.

This is a great result for the NSU baseball team. Alabama State had an amazing season last year, winning 31 games out of 50 for the season and 18 games out of 24 in conference play.

It’s important to get off to a good start, and even though it was just three games, it is an impressive start for the Demons.

They’re hoping to keep the momentum going at Sacramento State University on Tuesday, Feb. 23 and Wednesday, Feb. 24, before going on the road to Hattiesburg, Mississippi to take on the Golden Eagles of Southern Miss from Feb. 26-28.

Softball affirms preseason predictions

Cassandra Briscoe
Sports Writer

The Lady Demon softball team traveled to San Marcos, Texas, to start their season with a five game series, finishing strong with four wins and one loss during the three-day CenturyLink Classic tournament. They took on DePaul University, Oklahoma State, Texas State and Abilene Christian.

The girls began the weekend with a 5-1 win in the season-opener. Although DePaul has a strong team with a rich program history, it was not enough to hold off the Lady Demons. Later that day, the Lady Demons took on Oklahoma State, hoping to continue their success.

The landmark win was the game against Oklahoma State, where NSU defeated them by a score of 9-3. Head Coach Donald Pickett, in his eighth season with the Lady Demons, was proud of the team's performance.

"The girls just did a really good job of sticking to the game plan, trusting themselves and being really confident," Pickett said.

The Lady Demon offense and defense proved too much for the OSU Cowgirls. Sophomore pitcher Micaela Bouvier said she was able to relax on the mound knowing the team had her back.

"I have to throw my pitches and trust the great defense behind me," Bouvier said. "I have so much confidence in them that I just threw the ball and let them get the outs."

Although they faced a large school, which is a member of the Big 12 Conference, confidence was key for NSU. The Lady Demons ended the night with two wins under their belt, ready and focused for the remainder of the tournament.

On Feb. 13, NSU took on Texas State. They came out of that game with a 1-0 win, which increased their winning streak to three games. After a short break, they laced back up to take on Abilene Christian. This game was a good test for them, as ACU is a member of NSU's conference.

The Lady Demons triumphed once again by a score of 4-2, giving us a hopeful sneak-peak of what to expect in the Southland Conference this season.

Senior Natalie Landry made an important play for NSU with a two-run home run. She stepped up to plate with the game tied at two.

"I had to free my hands up and get it out there; I didn't think it was going to go that far, but it did," Landry said.

After winning four straight, NSU concluded the tournament with an unfortunate loss to DePaul 1-0. The rematch was a close one, with NSU only surrendering one run for DePaul to take the win and break the Lady Demons streak.

Up next for NSU is the Getterman Classic, which will be held in Waco, Texas. Southland Conference play will commence in March, where the Lady Demons will compete for their sixth title.

Preseason polls predict that the Lady Demons will clinch first place after winning the regular season last year and taking home the Southland Tournament title back to back in 2013 and 2014.



Sophomore pitcher Bouvier warmed up before competing in the Century Link Classic Tournament. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*



NBA trading block deadline

Reginald Williams
Sports Writer

The NBA trade deadline. It's the craziest time of the NBA season. The honeymoon of the all-star break is over, and teams are now entering the stretch run of the season.

The top teams are all trying to sustain their momentum to keep the spots, while the teams in the middle of the pack are fighting for a playoff seat. Outside of the free agency period in the summer, the trade deadline is a very important time of year. This period of time can make or break a franchise.

The right or wrong move, like bringing in a fresh face or letting a player go, can make all the difference. For the players, it's a time of uncertainty. At the trade deadline, the phrase "no one is safe" comes to mind. From the star player to the 15th guy at the end of the bench, everyone is expendable.

This NBA season, rumors circulate in the media that Dwight Howard and Blake Griffin will be traded. Dwight, a perennial all-star, was once considered the cream of the crop of centers, but he is not the dominating player he once was due to continuous knee and back injuries and off the court issues involving coaches and players.

The Rockets have been in talks with multiple teams like the Hornets and Celtics, but — because Howard is not the player he once was — his stock and value in this market have lowered.

Blake Griffin, who was recently suspended for a number of games for punching the Clippers equipment manager, is also on the trading block. Although he was the number two pick in the 2009 NBA draft, Griffin has been lackluster this season.

Even with the help of all-star point guard Chris Paul, Griffin has yet to lead the Clippers past the second round of the playoffs. In fact, the Clippers are on a 19-6 run right now while Griffin has sat out due to injury and suspension.

Those are just the major names involved at the deadline. Other minor trades include players like Brandon Jennings getting traded to Orlando Magic for Tobias Harris. Another is Courtney Lee getting traded from the Grizzles to the Hornets for Chris Anderson and two second round picks, not to mention a three-team trade involving the Cavs, Blazers and Magic occurred, sending three-point shooting star Channing Frye to the Cavs.

Needless to say, this period is critical to many teams.

NS 'U' Voice

What do you think about Beyoncé's music video & performance of 'Formation?'

Niyyah Bakeer	Pearlie Jones	Zoé Richardson	Kyrsten Freyou	Mark Payton
				
Freshman Business	**Junior** Mass Communication	**Sophomore** Music Education	**Freshman** Nursing	**Junior** Vocal Performance
"I thought it was very powerful. It spoke up for a lot of black girls who are insecure about their features [...] It made me feel good that she felt good to just have her hair like that at the Super Bowl."	"It made me feel proud to be a black girl. She showed that our features as a black woman are perfect no matter what [...] They want us to get our nose done so it is not as broad, or to straighten our hair. I love that she honored our coils, hair and skin color."	"I support the Black Lives Matter message behind it. It is not about saying they are more important than anyone else, but that they matter just as much as anybody else [...] Anything Beyoncé says would be heard because she is an major role model and icon."	"It may be pro-black but it is not anti-white, so there should not be any reason that anybody is saying that it is racist because it is just promoting her culture."	"I believe people are responding to it negatively because this is something that she's never done before. They would take out their personal feeling toward Beyoncé, instead of actually listen to the lyrics."

Photos by Clarisse Gaucel

Here's your reason to engage in politics

JAMES WADE
Contributing Writer

Only a couple of weeks ago, I wrote an article about the concerning data from census.gov showing that younger voters—college students included—do not participate in the political process with the same enthusiasm as older voters. This has become an even more serious problem, considering what's happening right now in Louisiana.

For eight years, Gov. Bobby Jindal mismanaged state funds. He entered office with a $1 billion surplus and left office with a $2 billion deficit. Jindal, along with several other conservative lawmakers in the state, signed a pledge not to raise taxes. Instead, the former governor cut taxes, increased corporate tax credits and consistently cut funding to health services and higher education in a failed attempt to balance the unstable state budget.

Our state constitution only allows budget cuts to those two sources — health care and higher education — but this is an unacceptable practice that needs to be changed as soon as possible.

That is why the TOPS (Taylor Opportunity Program for Students) program has lost funds in this special legislative session. Gov. John Bel Edwards only took office last month, and now he is faced with the difficult task of fixing a broken system that he inherited. These details are important to consider, because this affects everyone in the state—including students at NSU.

If you're looking for an irrefutable reason to get involved in the political process, this is it. Although many current students were not old enough to vote when Jindal was running for office, now they have a chance to make changes.

I implore all students to register to vote in the state of Louisiana if they are legally able to do so. Regardless of where you are from, you are impacted by the decisions of lawmakers in this state, and so are the faculty and staff of NSU.

I would also encourage my fellow students to contact legislators in the state and demand that healthcare and higher education remain funded, no matter what the cost. Contact information for state senators and representatives can be found at legis.la.gov.

If you do not speak up now and defend the privilege of receiving an education, you may find yourself spending money on out-of-state tuition. If things do not change, colleges in Louisiana may face closures and significantly increased out-of-pocket spending from students.

Speak up, vote and engage in the political process. Otherwise, those who do participate will make policies that suite their agendas instead of policies that benefit students in Louisiana.

How Vans made Dan a star

AN-GEL SAMUEL
Opinions Editor

Daniel and his white vans have taken over the internet one stride at a time.

Viral videos have become a classic theme in our generation. Videos like "What are those," "Why you Lying" and "He needs some milk" along with others have been major points of entertainment in the past few months. As of last week, we now have "Damn Daniel."

The phrase "Damn Daniel" is now being used as a compliment towards friends on their outfits or shoes. Some get entertained by this while others just get annoyed at the repeated phrase.

The name Daniel Lara is all people can talk about for the past few days. If you haven't seen the video, you definitely should so you won't be lost in the loop. The video consists of Daniel (a teen boy) being filmed in various outfits on school grounds by his friend Josh. Both boys attend Riverside High School in California, according to New York Daily News.

Throughout the video, the friend screams out "Damn Daniel," followed by the phrase "back at it again with the white vans," referring to the shoes Daniel had on in the video.



The video was uploaded on Feb.15 and has been retweeted more than 230,000 times in a week on Twitter. Techinsider refers to is as "the curse of all good viral content."

Along with retweets and both boys gaining followers, according to Techinsider, white vans have been flying off of the racks with people trying to look like their new internet idol. What started off as a simple video turned into something bigger than anyone expected.

Personally, I found the video funny because of the voice of the person behind the camera and how excited Daniel seemed every time his name was mentioned. I found myself saying it a lot whenever I saw someone wearing white vans and showing my friends the videos if they hadn't already seen them.

I also think that this video, just like the others, will get old really fast if it hasn't already. Walking down the halls, all I hear is "Damn Daniel," and constant talk about his white vans. It can really get annoying when you hear it several times a day for multiple people. I can only imagine how hard it is for the people with this actual name.

Like most viral videos, remixes have already been inspired as well as remakes of different people reenacting the video.

Is cooking a thing of the past for us millennials?

AN-GEL SAMUEL
Opinions Editor

Is learning how to cook really important in the 21st Century? Cheap usually equates to unhealthy, and balancing price and health considerations can be impossible when trying to get by without cooking. So, if you don't have a chef on hand just yet, bite the bullet and pick up up the paprika.

When people think of cooking, they're often scared away by the fat grocery bill or the fear of burning down the house, when really it's all about creativity.

If you get at least five $1 ingredients and cook them appropriately, you can throw together a decent meal. That's the same amount of money you were going to use for fast food, right? Don't say you don't have any money because, when it comes down to it, you would spend at least $5 on fast food or snacks and regret it the next day.



Here are some examples:

Get a box of Kraft macaroni and add ground beef or sausage. You have a tasty play on hamburger helper.

Take the macaroni (without the cheese), add some chicken and spaghetti sauce, and you have chicken pasta.

My personal party favorite: Rotel dip. All you need is Velveeta cheese (available at the C-store), ground beef and two cans of Rotel tomatoes.

All these meals run $5-$10 if you get the cheapest ingredients and use the campus C-store to your advantage. Trust me, if you're cheap like I am and you have two to three friends that have at least one of these ingredients, you can cook a decent meal and have some left over for the next day.

Like I said, cooking is all about creativity. It doesn't take a master chef to be able to put something together and make it taste good; especially if you're feeding college students.

If you're living on a tight budget, you have to be able to find things in your cabinets to concoct some type of meal. This experimentation, believe it or not, qualifies you as a cook, and may be the start of some interesting traditions.

Trial and error is the best way to go, so don't be afraid to get out of your comfort zone. Cooking really isn't that bad; I promise. So close your wallet, open your cabinets and start mixing.

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The Current Sauce

Beyoncé gets political, and black

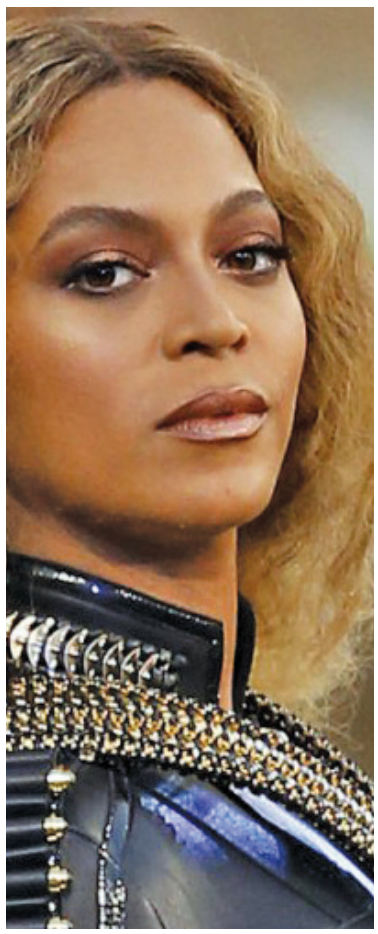


Photo by Creative Commons

SAVANNAH BASSETT
Staff Writer

On Feb. 6, Beyoncé released a new music video to her latest song "Formation," just 24 hours before her Super Bowl halftime performance. Little did people know that both the video and performance would become the center of a political and social debate.

Queen Bey's performance and video were an apparent homage to the Black Lives Matter movement. The backup dancers allegedly wore costumes similar to that of The Black Panthers, many social media users complained, and her video took an obvious stance against black stereotyping and police brutality.

Although some applauded Beyoncé for bringing these issues to light, others believed that Beyoncé made an unnecessarily divisive statement.

The beginning of Beyoncé's "Formation" video depicts her in a post-Katrina setting, sitting on a sinking New Orleans Police car. Then the voice of Messy Mya — a well-known deceased New Orleans Bounce artist — asks "What happened at the New Awlins?"

The video goes on to show multiple shots of New Orleans and of scenes depicting the city's historic and contemporary black culture. Some of the scenes include three women standing in a wig shop, Beyoncé and a backup dancer inside an antebellum-themed parlor and, of course, Mardi Gras.

The video also shows a young black boy dancing in front of a row of New Orleans police officers. Both the boy and the officers throw up their hands in surrender, and the camera then glides over to graffiti on the wall that reads "Stop Shooting Us," as the video ends.

Brandon Harris, a writer for Indie Wire, commented that "Black feminists have warred online over whether Beyoncé is putting forth a substantive form of activism through her work or simply appropriating these stark and complicated images for her own commercial gain."

While some may be quarreling, as Harris mentions, others are saying "the video is among the most politically direct work she has done in her career [...]" All of the imagery within her video holds an undeniable amount of sociopolitical symbolism.

As in her video, Beyoncé's performance at halftime during the Super Bowl appeared to have an underlying political meaning. The Black Panther symbolism gained an immense amount of attention. Republican Representative Peter King argued that "Beyoncé's performance was extolling the Black Panthers — a terrorist organization who killed police officers in the '60s and '70s."

The Black Panthers were formed in Oakland, Cal., as a catalyst to fight the oppression of the black community, both from their fellow citizens and the police force. In her CNN article, writer Sally Kohn states that "context is everything."

"The Black Panthers did not unilaterally launch protests and hostility against the police but were simply reacting to the brutal and racist climate cops had created," Kohn said.

Photos began to surface of Beyoncé's back up dancers holding a sign backstage that read "Justice 4 Mario Woods." Mario Woods was a young black man who was shot and killed by San Francisco police not far from the Super Bowl stadium. Woods supposedly wielded a knife and refused to put it down, so police opened fire with 20 shots. An autopsy revealed six shots to Woods back.

Between her performance and video, Beyoncé caused quite a stir. People responded with a variety of emotions; there were not two distinct sides. Individuals showed support, confusion and anger about Beyoncé's bold decision, as a public divided regarding contemporary race relations and the nation's problematic history.

Student sides with courts on Kesha ruling

ALEC HORTON
Photo Editor

Whatever happened to "innocent until proven guilty"? Fans are quick to jump to a celebrity's defense without taking a look at the facts presented, or lack thereof.

On Feb. 19, a judge ruled in favor of Lucas Gottwald and Sony Music Entertainment in their legal battle with Kesha Sebert, who accused Gottwald of sexual abuse and wanted out of her contract. This means that Sebert is due to make six more albums under Gottwald's subsidiary of the SME corporation to fulfill her contractual obligations.

Sebert's propaganda leading to the trial and visible sobbing after hearing Manhattan Supreme Court Justice Shirley Kornreich's ruling has convinced fans and celebrities alike to rally behind her. Lady Gaga, Ariana Grande and Demi Lovato are just a few public figures who have voiced support for Sebert.

Over 242,000 fans have signed a petition boycotting Sony Music on change.org, and a GoFundMe account has raised over $18,000 to buy Sebert out of her contract for a total amount of $2 million. It is unclear whether this amount would indeed end the contract.

"You're asking the court to decimate a contract that was heavily negotiated and typical for the [music] industry," Justice Kornreich says to Sebert's lawyer. "My instinct is to do the commercially reasonable thing."

Kesha has been a commercially successful artist since the very beginning of her career. Based on the facts presented, I don't think that Kornreich is out of place in her ruling.

In a deposition of a 2010 lawsuit that Sebert was involved in, she says "Dr. Luke [Gottwald] never made sexual advances to me." Either she was lying under oath in this deposition, or she is lying now. This discrepancy is enough to have the current case thrown out and to prosecute Sebert for perjury.

I stand with Kornreich's decision to preserve Sebert's contract. The Hollywood Reporter states that Gottwald has invested $60 million into her career. Sebert's claim of sexual assault without any hard evidence isn't good enough for me, and it shouldn't be good enough for anybody.

There is a disturbing problem with accepting a person's claim of assault without any evidence. Why do we expect the court to rule in favor of the accuser when no substantial proof has been brought forth?

If making these acute claims and shedding a few tears were enough to level debts, terminate leases or otherwise cease legally-binding contracts, then we should all be signing up for acting classes to learn how to cry on command.

Apparently the socially acceptable thing to do now is support self-proclaimed victims of abuse whether there is evidence or not. I would rather stand by the presumption of innocence than be deemed socially acceptable in today's world.

"Only 36 percent of rapes, 34 percent of attempted rapes, and 26 percent of sexual assaults were reported," from 1992-2000, according to the National Institute of Justice's summary of a Bureau of Justice Statistics report.

It is appalling that such a high percentage of rapists never face charges. The best way that I think we can change this is by supporting our friends and family. Encourage them to speak up about sexual assault, or any situations where assault occurs when it occurs, rather than years later.

If you have been a victim of sexual assault, call the national sexual assault telephone hotline at 800-656-HOPE (4673).

More hotlines can be found at victimsofcrime.org.



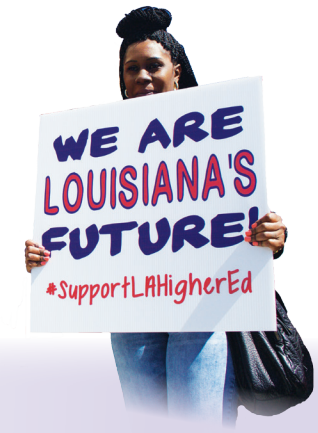
Student robbed at gunpoint, no Purple Alert issued by police

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NSU students join peers at the capitol in a rally for higher education

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THE CURRENT SAUCE

Wednesday, March 2, 2016 Volume: 101 Issue: 19

How will NSU tighten the belt?

A look at how it handled past cuts

ASHLEY WOLF
Staff Writer

The downward spiral of higher education state funding began in 2008 with a $2.1 million budget cut.

Fast forward eight years and 13 mid-year budget cuts later, and Louisiana ranks 48th in the nation in state funding for higher education.

With a $42 million reduction on the horizon for the upcoming academic year, NSU faces a restructuring of fund distribution, while it also tries to emerge from a state-reliant model into a self-reliant one.

In the past, budget cuts took a different approach. In 2009, the Louisiana Board of Regents instructed universities to create an Academic Restructuring Task Force to identify underperforming programs based on the annual graduation rates, expenses, and university core and workforce development.

"Higher education has an obligation, especially during economic downturns, to operate in the most efficient manner possible," former Commissioner of Higher Education Sally Clausen said.

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President Jim Henderson and Athletics Director Greg Burke break down how athletics are funded and outline their plans to decrease spending and increase revenue with the coming cuts to state funding. *Photo by Alec Horton*

University defends athletic funding after accusations surface in article

ASHLEY WOLF
Staff Writer

The classic war between nerds and jocks has moved past the superficial status of a popularity contest and onto a contest between two collegiant interest groups: athletics and academics.

A recent article by Fox 8, airing on WVUE New Orleans, painted a bleak picture of NSU as a university who over-funded athletics at the expense of academic success ever since the last budget cuts caused many program terminations and faculty layoffs in 2008.

President Jim Henderson says that the article misdrew the battle lines for present-day NSU, however, where the current administration is redefining what it means to run a univeristy efficiently with little help from the state. Since 2008, state funding has decreased by over 50 percent, and tuition has increased by 99 percent, leaving the university with the task of reallocating funds appropriately.

The article, an investigation by Lee Zurik on athletics funding at NSU and other Louisiana universities, stuck to the classic narrative, pitting the cut of the journalism department in 2010 against supposed increases in athletic funding.

Zurik's investigation claimed that "in 2008, before the budget cuts began in earnest, the school gave athletics $3,376,523; this year it's up to $3,774,523."

Zurik goes further to say that "10 public universities in Louisiana have been forced to cut their educational spending by an average of 4.4 percent, while their athletic budgets have grown by 57 percent – six times the inflation rate."

Henderson said that a change in booking that started in the 2007-08 fiscal year contributed to a perceived rise in athletic funding. However, when drastic cuts in higher education caused the elimination of

Continued on Page 4

Professors attempt to spread awareness of Zika virus

AN-GEL SAMUEL
Opinions Editor

Zika virus is spreading into North America, and two cases have already been reported in Louisiana from out-of-state visitors, Associate Professors Dr. Francene Lemoine and Dr. Caryne Craige said during a special seminar held in Bienvenue Hall on Feb. 29 about the international outbreak.

Lemoine decided to hold the informational after several students asked questions about what the media has portrayed as a spreading disease similar to the swine flu and ebola outbreaks in recent years. She explained what Zika virus is and how it is transmitted, then Craige reviewed the dangers the virus can have on pregnant women and their babies.

Zika virus was first discovered in April of 1947 from a monkey, which was immediately caged to contain the virus. It wasn't until 1954 that it was first discovered in humans in the blood of a 10-year-old Nigerian girl. Zika is an icosahedral shape, which means it's spherical shape is surrounded by a cluster of protein.

As most know, Zika is transmitted through mosquitoes, ticks and fleas but did not originate with these insects. In this case, the mosquitoes are seen as vectors, which only carry pathogens from one individual to the next, Lemonine said.

The mosquitoes penetrate the blood and spit venom in it to prevent the blood from clotting, and then proceed to drink. After mosquitoes feed on the blood of someone already affected with Zika, they are able to transmit it.

Zika can also be transmitted sexually through semen. The virus can be present in the blood from three days to a week, but may be in semen for longer. Lemoine said that, so far, experts don't know if women are able to sexually transmit the virus.

Those infected can show symptoms of the common cold: fever, rashes, joint pains, muscle pains, headaches and in some cases pink eye. Lemoine said that the symptoms only last through the infection span, from three days to a week, and that experts estimate every one in five people that come in contact with the virus becomes ill.

"Once a person has been infected, they are likely to be protected from future infections," Lemoine said.

Theres isn't a vaccine to prevent the infection yet. An infected person must rest, drink plenty of fluids and take Tylenol to relieve fever and pain. Any non-steroidal, anti-inflammatory drugs should not be ingested.

Dr. Craige said that Zika can cause congenital infections and abnormalities and can affect an unborn fetus or newborn infants. Mothers can pass the virus to their children through direct invasion (across the placenta), perinatal through the birth canal during delivery or postnatal through breast milk.

"Zika infection is linked to the nervous system which can cause an increase in microcephaly in babies born from an infected mother," Craige said.

According to Craige, microcephaly is the decrease in the infant's head circumference. Microcephaly can disrupt brain function, cell migration and arthrogryposis (congenital joint contractures).

"I think more people need to be aware of this," sophomore communications major Destinie White said. "I haven't heard too many people speaking about the virus, and we all need to have knowledge about it or at least more knowledge than we already do."

Freshman nursing major Jessica Watkins was disturbed by how difficult it is to prevent the virus's spread via insects.

"It's crazy how you can just be sitting outside, get bitten by a mosquito and have the virus," Watkins said.

Sophmore communications major Shania Dauterive cautioned people against dismissing the virus as a non-issue.

"I agree people need to be more aware of this, but they are more worried about other things like the Oscars than their own wellbeing, and that's a problem," Dauterive said. "Health over everything."

Demon Style: Messy buns work as quick fix for student's early morning rush

HANNAH RICHARDSON
Staff Photographer

Forcing yourself to go to an early morning class after staying up late can leave you feeling drained and exhausted. Some days, we just don't have the energy to put effort into our appearance. Our clothes may not match and our hair may be sticking out in several different directions.

An easy hairstyle for these types of days is the messy bun. This hairstyle is easy to make — it's a simple up-do — but also a cute and trendy hairstyle. Tons of students on campus pull off this look just because the style is so well-known.

People put together a messy bun using several different methods, but the one method I've found easiest is this: Twist all your hair together at the top of your head, wrap it around your finger several times until it becomes a bun and then keep it all together with a hair elastic. For that messy bun look, I usually twist the hair very loosely and pull a few strands out.

Freshman Rylea Sepulvada described this style as effortless.

"It doesn't take as much effort as straightening or curling my hair," she said. "It's best to wear my hair in a bun when I'm on the go and I don't have time to get dressed up."

August Brinkmeier, a freshman nursing major, said that it might take a little more effort to get her hair to that "perfect messy bun" level.

"The best time to wear my hair in a messy bun is when it's not been washed for a day or two, but it looks good all the time!" she said.

The messy bun is a perfect style for any day of the week, not just on days when there's no time to get properly ready. Unless you're trying to achieve that perfect messy bun look, this hairstyle takes little to no effort to create and will always be a cute and popular look.



Brinkmeier accessorizes her messy bun with a headband.
Photo by Hannah Richardson

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(Left) Friends Siera Seemion, Shaterika Jones, and Teaka Jacobs played the tables and enjoyed the live band playing all night at SAB's Vegas Night last Thursday. (Right) Some of the students attending Vegas Night took it as an opportunity to dress for the occasion. Some were dressed as sailors while others wore more glamorous outfits.

Photos by Bonny Bacoccini

Who got lucky at Vegas Night?

Annual event attracts students with food, music and gambling



A craps table was set up Thursday night during the Vegas Night event. Trey Latino tossed the dice and hoped for big money. Other activities at Vegas Night included Slot Machines and dueling piano.

Photo by Bonny Bacoccini

BRIA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The room was quiet as SAB member Olivia Guidry read the winning ticket for the $200 Nike gift card. Joel Moreaux, a junior vet-tech/ biology major, was not the only person in the room who placed all his bets on that Nike gift card. After playing Blackjack all night, he stopped counting his chips after he won more than "50,000" dollars. His strategy was to bet big or go home.

Much to his surprise, Moreaux had the winning ticket number.

"I was in total shock," Moreaux said. Along with the Nike gift card, the Student Activities Board had a Fossil Watch, a Kate Spade purse and a massage chair among others up for grabs for students to place bets on.

This year, SAB invested around $10,000 in the event. They split the money between a wide range of prizes, casino games, a photo booth, food, drinks and the entertainment for the night: dueling pianos.

Dueling pianos is a group SAB found at the Association for the Promotion of Campus Activities convention. The group creates shows completely dependent on the students. As new requests are brought to them, they will take the song and create a spontaneous, humorous twist to it, according to the committee head of the event Olivia Guidry.



"They are too loud," performance arts major Skilynn Fontenot said of the dueling pianos. "They don't do the right beat to certain songs ... I had to yell."

Fontenot and her friend Holli Conway came dressed for the occasion, wearing sparkly dresses, lipstick and heels.

"I thought we were supposed to. The dress code said 'A Night in Vegas' right?" Conway, a musical theatre major, said. She didn't regret her decision and said she enjoyed a chance to dress to the nines.

"This dress makes me feel better," she said. "It's glittery, so I feel like a star."

The ballroom was filled with students — some in sweatpants, some in suits — singing renditions of Usher's "Let it Burn" and Journey's "Don't stop Believing," placing their bets at slot machines and crap tables.

By the end of the night, all the pig-in-a-blankets and mini meat pies were gone, the virgin daiquiri machine was down and a handful of lucky students left with a little more than with what they arrived.

Police Blotter

Feb. 18

•Drug Law Violation
UP 1

•Disturbance
Unknown Location

Feb. 19

•Vehicle Break In
Parking Lot 19

•Person Calling to Students
Caddo Hall

Feb. 21

•Vehicle Keyed
Columns

Feb. 22

•Possible Theft of Lumber
WRAC

•Possible Drug Violation
Columns

•Distubance
UP 2

Student media fall leadership openings

KNWD radio
General manager

Potpourri yearbook
Editor-in-Chief

The Current Sauce
Editor-in-Chief

Available: March 17-24
Due: **March 24**

Pick up applications outside of 225 Kyser and, for KNWD, 109 Kyser oustide of radio station

CRIME

Student robbed at gunpoint

JOSHUA FONTENOT
Staff Writer

Sergeant Shane Lodrigue of the University Police Department was dispatched to a reported armed robbery on March 1.
The student was held at gunpoint in the vicinity of University Place 1 around 12 a.m., according to Marcus Jones, vice president of student affairs.

UPD was informed that an assailant matching the gunman's description was apprehended by the Natchitoches Police Department quickly after the incident.

The suspect is currently being held at the Natchitoches Detention Center.
Shortly after the event, the student's concerns Facebook page saw an influx of questions regarding why a Purple Alert was not issued. Many students felt they should have been notified if there was a threat to their safety on campus.

Purple Alert is a rapid emergency notification system used by NSU to notify students of endangerment. Students are encouraged to register for Purple Alert every semester for their benefit.

"...If I was not apart of this Facebook page (which not every student is a member of), I would not have even known about a potential threat to my well being," student Dalton Rudolph said.

Jones acknowledged that no Purple Alert was issued at the time of the incident.

Each UPD officer is trained on how to use Purple Alert and educated about the criteria in which an alert should be issued. Whether or not they choose to put an alert into effect is up to the discretion of the officer. Lodrigue decided the situation had been diffused and that no further action was needed.

Jones stressed that there are certain criteria issued by law in which the university must release an alert to students, whether it is by messenger, email or an alert system similar to the one in place at our university.

Safety is of utmost importance to campus authorities, and they are actively seeking measures to improve the comfort of both students and faculty members, Jones said.

"After every incident on campus, we hold a post-incident review with the UPD," he said.
During post incident reviews, campus security goes over the incident report to decide whether or not they believe the right action was taken at the time. This includes a discussion on Purple Alert. If past actions are deemed improper, they then decide what the right course of action would be for future reference.

To further improve campus safety, students on the concerns page requested NSU invest in The Blue Light System.
Blue Code, a leading manufacturer of emergency communications, produces the Blue Light Emergency Phone System to fit the needs of countless institutions.

Blue Light features a brightly lit phone where students can press a button for police assistance. The blue light helps students easily locate the booths spread out in multiple locations throughout campus. The system provides immediate access to emergency responders.

Jones stated that in the past there were concerns with the system being vandalized, but Blue Code has recently revamped their product to be vandal-resistant, according to their website.

"We have a lot of students spending more time in labs on campus," Jones said. "I think this system would be a good idea to have, especially for those students moving about campus late."

The Student Government Association is currently looking into employing the Blue Light System on NSU's campus.

Report pits athletics funding against academic interest

Continued from Front

25 academic degree programs and minors at NSU, the athletic budget experienced an increase of more than $1 million over the past several years.

Although a change in accounting policy may have caused confusion about how much the athletic budget has increased, it isn't the sole factor for a $1 million increase. State policy allows 3 percent of the tuition and state appropriations of an institution to fund its athletic budget. As a result, the athletic budget increases as tuition increases, and, with tuition increasing by 10 percent every year, the financial divide between academics and athletics grows.

"I would actually like to have control of tuition," said Henderson. "Because in certain circumstances, we could actually reduce tuition and generate more revenue to support academic offerings. Unfortunately in Louisiana, tuition is controlled by the state Legislature."

Right now, the athletic budget receives $3.8 million from the university, and transfers back $2.5 million to the university budget for athletic scholarships, an amount that is regulated by the NCAA. This leaves $1.3 million to run athletics, but Burke says that this still isn't enough. Additional funds from student fees, donations from the NSU Foundation and self-generated revenue help to cover game guarantees and travel expenses, but, even so, the return on investment for athletics isn't enough to substantially decrease the budget it receives from the university.

Athletics also receives 10 percent of coaches' salaries from the recruiting budget, which Henderson says "reflects the work they do in recruiting."

Athletic Director Gregory Burke said that coaches are active in recruiting both athletes and non-athletes to the university and also noted that many athletes receive either partial scholarship or pay completely out of pocket, resulting in $3.4 million that go strictly to the "university coffers."

Dr. Henderson wants to make a change from maxing out the athletic budget, to maximizing the return of investment in athletics. Additionally, the university is investing in the implementation and renovation of new and old academic programs.

NSU recently developing four graduate certificates that include quality control, project management, business analytics and writing for business and industry. In development is an applied microbiology degree and gaining approval for competency-based programs that will first focus on enabling the Computer Information Systems to become a quick and inexpensive way to a degree.

The war between athletics and academics is working its way to a win-win situation. Over the past four or five years, funding to the athletic budget at NSU has decreased by about 7.5 percent. In the future, a campaign with the NSU Foundation Board will raise scholarship funds. Plans for the campaign will be revealed in the coming months, according to Henderson.

"Our investments are in those programs that students are demanding, that are relevant in the marketplace and that enhance academic offerings of this university," Henderson said.
"...We're focused on the student experience and academic excellence."

BUDGET

Past cuts

Continued from Front

"If we expect our state to invest in our human capital and make our colleges and universities a priority, we owe tax-payers a thorough assessment of our enterprise with an eye towards efficiency and accountability."

At the beginning of 2010, the Academic Restructuring Task Force went into action with the new name of Program Review Committee composed of nine members representing each academic college and the NSU Faculty Senate. The committee met eight times with the goal of reducing the operating budget of academic programs by $4-10 million due to a projected $10.3 million cut for the 2011-12 academic year.

This resulted in the elimination of 25 academic programs, terminating nine degree programs and 11 minors. Program cuts led to the layoffs of the 17 tenured professors that came with them, two of which accepted instructor positions and three of which were reassigned to non-tenured positions. Those who were reassigned were later reinstated to tenured positions.

The termination of the 12 tenured professors prompted an investigation from the American Association of University Professors, and its conclusion stated that the NSU administration "showed disregard for the judgment of the faculty in virtually every aspect of the program discontinuance process."

The University of Louisiana system did not agree with this statement, saying that NSU followed ULS policy, but former journalism professor Mary Brocato felt that NSU violated its responsibility to its students.

After the department was cut, a one-year "teach-out" period followed which allowed students to finish the required courses for their journalism degrees. But according to Brocato, many students, especially freshman and sophomores, weren't able to complete the required courses due to unfulfilled prerequisites and scheduling conflicts. Without the option of a journalism degree, students could either transfer or choose a general studies or language arts degree, which Brocato said she felt was a breach of "contract with [the journalism students] by not living up to the terms of the catalog of which they entered the university."

The journalism department had the highest student-retention rates at NSU and over-exceeded the requirements for annual completers, but the expenses of the department were deemed too costly to maintain, primarily due to the cost of radio and TV equipment. However, other programs used these facilities free of charge, and the equipment was moved over to the Department of Language and Communication, where it continued to be used.

"To this day, I still do not understand why the journalism department was eliminated," Brocato said.

Brocato felt that the brunt of the cuts were to academic programs and should have been evenly distributed between athletics, academics and administrators.

Wise Chair Ray Strother believes that the elimination of the journalism department was "a little more personal" than financial expenses.

"I think the former president didn't have a strong feeling for journalism," Strother said. "He thought that journalists were hard to manage and control… and it's always been my opinion — although I don't know this — that you would get rid of the department that's a stone in your shoe."

Former editor of The Current Sauce and 2008 NSU graduate Jim Mustian recalled times when the administration didn't like what student media published, but says he couldn't recall experiencing censorship from them.

Strother doesn't foresee the new administration under Dr. Jim Henderson actively working against student media and the "new journalism department," under the name of the Department of New Media, Journalism, and Communication Arts.

In the last major budget cut, "the most plausible approach to addressing more budget cuts seems to be…reducing personnel and other costs and developing retrenchment plans that will allow [NSU] to continue to curtail spending in the future if necessary," Dr. Webb said at the time.

Henderson is taking a different approach in this round of budget cuts: "Those institutions that are going to survive this year, next year and the next 10 years are those that recognize that the student is the consumer, and you have to give value, both in experience and in educational degree, to that student."

Programs and positions cut in 2010 budget crisis

Majors

- B.S. in Chemistry
- B.S. in Chemistry Education
- M.A. and B.A. in Heritage Resources
- B.A. in Journalism
- B.S. in Physics
- B.S. in Physics Education
- B.A in Political Science
- B.A. in Sociology

Minors

- Chemistry,
- French
- Food and Nutrition
- Geology
- German
- Historical Preservation
- Journalism
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Political Science

26 full-time employees released.

17 of these 26 employees lost tenure.

12 of these 17 released permanetly.

2 of these 17 accepted instructor positions.

3 of these 17 reassigned and regained tenure.



Demons bring the H.E.A.T. to Baton Rouge

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

On Feb. 24, over 2000 students gathered on the front steps of the state capitol in Baton Rouge to unite their voices against potential budget cuts to higher education.

The rally called all college students, professors and parents to action while state legislators attempt to balance the budget without enacting drastic measures, like cutting TOPS (Taylor Opportunity for Students) program or closing schools.

Over 100 students from NSU took advantage of the transportation sponsored by the Student Government Association to join over 2,000 students at the Higher Education All Together rally.

"I believe that the event was very effective and I am happy to see NSU come together," SGA Vice-President Chantasia Grasty said.

The state SGA hosted the event "to bring awareness to the threat of severe budget cuts to higher education funding and to promote action by our state leaders to find long-term, sustainable funding for higher education in Louisiana," according to their statement of purpose.

The rally began with "Rock the Rally" featuring DJ Kool SupaMike. The Southern University band, Human Jukebox, played several songs before the speakers commenced with a welcome by Jesse Elliot, student body president of LSU Alexandria and the Louisiana Council of Student Body Presidents chair, along with Patrick Harrington, Southern University Law Center SGA president.

Harrington encouraged the students to press our government officials for solutions for the future.

"We need results, not rhetoric," Harrington said. "Solidarity is our strength, and, look around you, our solidarity has never been greater."

The event continued with an invocation by 8-year-old Southern University Baton Rouge (SUBR) student Elijah Precciely and the national anthem by Marcella Ratcliff, SUBR student.

The SGA presidents then participated in a university roll call, when each president went to the podium and stated which university they represented.

Following the roll call, Gov. John Bell Edwards made an unscheduled appearance. Edwards encouraged students and stated his support "to fight alongside you."

"I am proud to stand with you then, and I'm proud to stand with you today," he said.

Edwards said he was confident about making positive changes in the special session.

"We are going to fix this problem before we go home," the governor said.

Edwards said that he did not want to cut higher education or TOPS, nor did he want our universities to close. He said legislators will be looking for new revenue and strategic cuts to prevent harming higher education.

"We cannot afford to not invest in your future," Edwards stated.

The University of New Orleans SGA president, Joy Ballard, followed. She commented on the power the united students had.

Ballard noted that all of the universities came together for this rally.

"Today we gather under one banner," she said, arguing that the power of students lies within the need to unite for a common purpose and shed labels.

She emphasized the fact that legislators must find real solutions to the budget problem. She commented that each college student present at the rally was built by the state of Louisiana and that "without higher education, this state has no future."

Several speakers including commissioners, system presidents, legislators and students from various higher education establishments followed. They focused on the power students had as voters, as well as their families, even though students may not have high-dollar lobbyists on their side. Speakers rallied for stable funding and the insurance of a quality education.

One of the speakers roused the crowd with the statement, "Graduation, not incarceration!" The crowd then responded by chanting "No more cuts!"

Danielle Parrish, a nursing student at River Parish Community College, gave a word of encouragement.

"Hard circumstance don't have to dictate your future," Parrish said.

She challenged the crowd emotionally by bringing the issue to a personal level.

"I need to know I can finish my nursing program I worked so hard to get to without stressing about the budget cuts," Parrish said.

The rally ended with the students releasing red balloons.

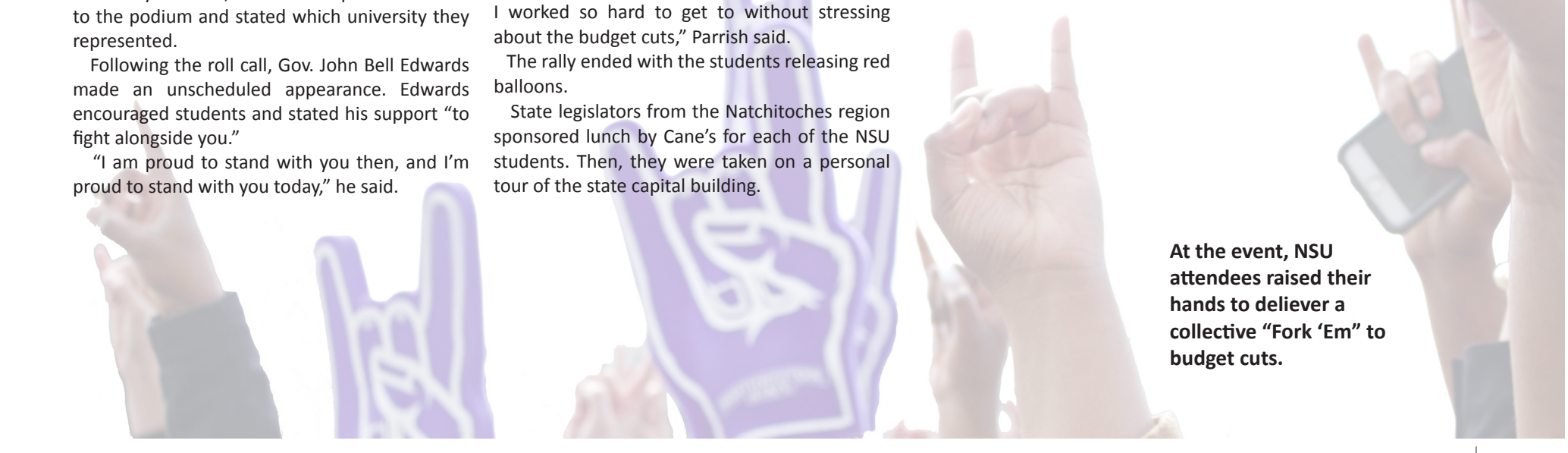
State legislators from the Natchitoches region sponsored lunch by Cane's for each of the NSU students. Then, they were taken on a personal tour of the state capital building.



The Louisiana House and Senate are currently working to solve the state's $900 million budget deficit. If no clear plan to tackle the deficit arises when the special legislative session ends on March 9, the universities will begin to suffer. *Photos by Ashley Wolf*



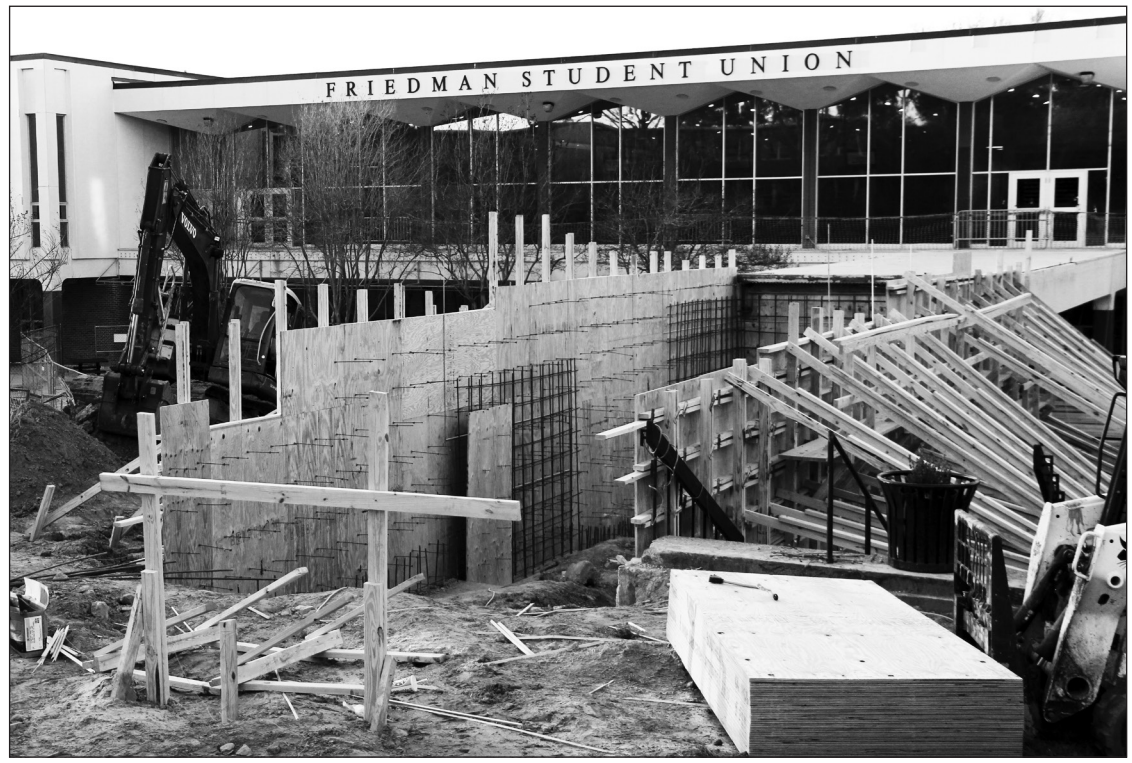
Gov. John Bel Edwards made a surprise visit to the higher education rally at the captitol, joining the long line of speakers, including state legislators.



At the event, NSU attendees raised their hands to deliever a collective "Fork 'Em" to budget cuts.

Campus to increase accessibility

AIRROL ANGELLE
Staff Writer



The union entrance will now include a ramp to increase accessibility, and the Watson Memorial Library is expected to become fully accessible by Fall 2016 when the Office of Disability Support moves there. *Photo by Alec Horton*

The construction on the union bridge is more than another campus facelift. It's part of larger initiative to make campus more accessible to students with disabilities that was set in motion in 2008. Some of the funding for this change came from insurance after a delivery vehicle struck the bridge back in December of 2014.

NSU takes pride in its willingness to be "user friendly," and the bridge re-construction is the latest example of that, according to Director of the Office of Disability Support Catherine Faucheaux. Most accessibility concerns are handled on an individual level. Students are encouraged to visit her office union Room 234, to ask questions in a confidential setting.

Faucheaux is a gateway into the network of resources it takes to make NSU accessible. A student can go to her with an accessibility complaint, and she will network with the appropriate people to make sure the student's needs are met. This may even mean relocating a class if it is not easily accessible to a student at its current location.

Junior Tara Johnston's mode of mobility is a motorized wheelchair. Although the English major has not had to ask for help from the Office of Disability Support, they have contacted her. She said that for the most part she found the campus accessible.

"The push buttons for the door were a big help, but the sidewalks were kind of a problem," Johnston said. "Once I hit a pothole and lost a wheel on my chair."

The Physical Plant handles most of the in-house repairs, such as push button door openers and ramps. Sidewalk repairs are their main accessibility project. They also install wheelchair accessible desks and work stations when students request them.

These projects are funded by building-use fees, the operations account and the major repairs account, Marcus Jones, vice president for university affairs, explained. Only the building-use fees are connected to students; they do not increase or decrease depending on how much maintenance is needed. If more students enroll, the budget for renovations will grow. Without a larger enrollment, there will be a lower budget, which can lead to more buildings being shut down.

Most of the buildings on NSU's campus were constructed before the professors at NSU today were born, and a lot has changed since then. The 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards, for one, are constantly evolving. It is essential that NSU take a proactive approach to keeping up with these standards, lest they face a review of the campus or federal government fines.

A team from Disability Access Consultants, Inc. surveyed NSU's campus in 2008. They wrote a 3,000 page workbook, with pictures, identifying exactly what needs to change on campus to bring NSU up to the current ADA code. It included alterations as small as making a few individual signs 2 inches taller. The largest change involves renovating Kyser Hall; however, to cut down on costs, Kyser will be demolished and a new building constructed where the Sabine parking lot is now to replace it.

Multi-million dollar projects, like replacing Kyser, are funded through capital outlay. This is money from the state, but is not connected to the higher education budget. Capital outlay stems from general obligation bonds sold by the state. Jones said that bringing the campus up to ADA code will not raise tuition or take away from scholarships and teaching salaries.

Every year NSU creates a five-year plan of projects they hope to get passed through to capital outlay. ADA projects top this list and are classified as an emergency. The list is passed through the University of Louisiana system where lists from other schools are compiled.

Then, the master list goes to the board of regents for ranking, and is passed on to the Louisiana state legislature. They decide what projects to fund with capital outlay. It is a very competitive process—only three NSU projects have been selected within the past 12 years.

Jones explained that, even if projects are high priority for campus, they may not be ranked as high as projects from other schools. This means NSU projects get pushed back. Sometimes a decade can pass before the state approves a project.

Dean of Students Frances Conine said students can help get certain projects important to them pushed through by calling Senator Gerald Long at 628-5799. Projects are sometimes prioritized by how many people are willing to campaign for them.

In the Natatorium's case, ADA standards required a lift to bring the pool up to code, handicap parking spaces and structural renovations, leading to the building's closure. The repairs were given lower priority on a five-year plan, but the building will remain closed until funding is available. A lift was instead installed at the recreational complex pool associated with the city's golf course, Northwestern Hills.

Turpin Stadium was renovated with alumni funding in a proactive measure to increase accessibility. ADA compliant platforms replaced two sections of seating, totaling around $400,000.

"It's nice when people can do that," Gil Gilson, capital outlay director, said. "We're lucky to get what we get."

SGA minutes

Monday, Feb. 29

•Meet Your Senator Day is March 2.

•The Organizational Relief Fund spent a little over $21,000 for student travel. The next ORF meeting is March 21; applications are due March 14 on orgsync.

•Next week, a bill will be introduced that sets up a mini-conference for all students. This would be headed by Student Life, First Year Experience and the College of Educaiton.

•On March 16, SGA will host an academic forum for students to discover new programs coming to NSU.

•On March 21, SGA will host a leadership luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Students can visit with the leadership council at this event.

•A speaker is being lined up for April 7.

•According to an email from Health and Human Performance Department head Dr. Dollar, made public in the SGA meeting, the HHP 24-hour lab is permanetly closed down due to students sleeping in the building. Dollar said that the university "conservatively estimated" that 75 percent of students own ipads and laptops. He also highlighted the 24-hour lab located in Russell Hall. However, SGA member Essie Hullaby said that the computers in the Russell Hall lab shut down from 12 a.m. to 5 a.m. SGA is working to fix the lab issue.



Natchitoches Activities

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

Starting point
Demon Drive

Orville Hanchey Gallery at Northwestern State University
Gallery of student and faculty art

- Free
- Mon.-Thurs. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Fri. 8 a.m.-noon
- 75 Sam Sibley Dr.
- (318) 357-5476
- 0.5 miles 11 min.

Women's Gymnasium and NCPTT offices

- Free
- Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.
- 645 University Pkwy
- 0.6 miles 12 min.

The three-story brick building, constructed in 1923, housed the NSU Women's Physical Education department until it was outgrown. This department developed the first academic physical education major in Louisiana. The first floor has offices, a laboratory and conference rooms. The second floor remains a gym, is used for special events and can be rented by student organizations for free. It also serves as a museum.



President's Home, Northwestern State University
The original NSU President's house

- Free
- Open to the public Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- 525 University Pkwy
- (318) 357-4414
- 0.7 miles 13 min.

The President's home built in 1927 is an example of Tudor Revival style, which is rare in the Cane River region. It was constructed when the school was still Normal School, and the name later changed to the Louisiana State Normal College. The campus changed from solely a teacher training school and was renamed Northwestern State College of Louisiana in 1944 and then Northwestern State University of Louisiana in 1970. The home was designed by an architectural firm and is considered one of the most architecturally sophisticated buildings on campus. It currently serves as the Alumni Center and is used for special events.





The American Cemetery
The oldest cemetery in the Louisiana Purchase

- Free
- Open to the public
- 1.1 miles 21 min.

Established around 1737, it is the burial site of all the residents of the Fort St. Jean Baptiste. It is speculated that St. Denis was buried on site, but no marker remains. In 1904, a local group of women formed the American Cemetery Association to restore the cemetery. In 1989, the cemetery was used as an important scene in "Steel Magnolias."

Kisatchie
o Free trails & camping for a few dollars
o Always open
oThe only national forest in Louisiana, Kisatchie is located in the piney forests across seven parishes.
o 24.4 miles o 31 min.

Briarwood: Caroline Dormon Nature Preserve
o Open March - May, October & November
o Open Sat. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. & Sun. 12-5 p.m.
o Tours available by appointment
o (318) 576-3379
o 216 Caroline Dorman Rd. Saline, LA 71070
o 33.1 miles o 44 min.

Fort St. Jean Baptist Historic Site
Birthplace of French Natchitoches

- Students $7
- Wed. - Sun. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- 115 Rue Jefferson
- (318) 357-3101
- 1.2 miles 23 min.

French Canadian Louis Antoine Juchereau de St. Denis founded Natchitoches in 1712. The fort was built in 1716, becoming the first permanent European settlement in the territory and a prominent trade center in the Lower Mississippi Valley.

The United States obtained the ruins of the fort with the Louisiana Purchase of 1803. The replication site is a few hundred yards from the second fort site, around the location of the American Cemetery. Historians believe that the first location was more east and is now submerged by the Cane River Lake.



The Office of State Parks began interpretive programs and each year the park hosts several 18th century history encampments and demonstrations of the history



Steel Magnolias Tour of Filming Sites

A self-guided tour of sites from the hit movie "Steel Magnolias," on natchitoches.com.

- Taylor-Cook (Steel Magnolias) House
- 1.1 miles 22 min.

Historic District Walking Tours

- Free
- Tues.-Sat., 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Tours begin at the Natchitoches Area Convention & Visitors Bureau, located at 780 Front Street. The tour is funded by Cane River National Heritage Area and the Historic District Development Commission.

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Rectory and Museum built in 1857 but finished in 1892 with the addition of the dome

- Free
- 145 Church St.
- (318) 352-3422
- 1.3 miles 26 min.

Immaculate Conception opened in 1857, and Bishop Durier completed construction in 1892 with the addition of the dome.

The first bishop of the Natchitoches Diocese, Bishop Augustin Martin, and his VicarGeneral, Pierre F. Dicharry, are buried in the church near the side altars.

Across the street is the Rectory, built in New Orleans in 1885, transported by boat and reassembled on site, and the Old Seminary, 1855. It is now the Bishop Martin Museum which holds the depository for early records (from 1724) and church artifacts.

Natchitoches Genealogy Library and Old Courthouse Museum

- Free
- Tues. - Fri. 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- 600 Second Street
- 1.3 miles 26 min.

The Old Courthouse, built in 1896 in the Richardsonian Romanesque style, was damaged in 1933 by a fire and has been renovated three times (1933, 1961, and 1976) .

The second floor of the building is the location of the Natchitoches Genealogy Library and is the only floor now open to the public. The library houses French conveyances, mortgages and books, Natchitoches Parish Census records 1820-1920, and Natchitoches Times microfilm records for March 1903-Oct. 1996.





NSU Recreation Complex

- 322 Sam Sibley Drive
- 2.1 miles 6 min.

-Northwestern Hills Golf Course

Opened in 1981 and is operated by NSU

- 18-hole "Demon Hills"
- Tues. - Sun. 7:30a.m.-Dusk (no tee time required)
- (318) 357-6300

-NSU Recreation Complex Pool

Olympic-size swimming pool, open to the public

- Free for students with current ID
- Summer Months: Tues. - Sun. 1-7 p.m.
- Fall/Spring: Tues.- Fri. 3-7 p.m., Sat./Sun. 1-7 p.m.
- (318) 357-5269

-Tennis Courts

- 4 tennis courts
- Tuesday-Sunday 7:30 a.m. - Dusk
- (318) 352-5532

Prud'homme-Roquier House

The only true two-story building made with bousillage in the nation.

- Tours by appointment
- 446 Rue Jefferson
- (318) 352-6723
- 1.3 miles 26 min.

The Prudhomme-Roquier House was built between 1790 and 1811. The exterior was made in the Federal or Greek Revival style, though it was originally a French Creole building. It was built using the traditional French Creole method of erecting cypress beams and filling the space with bousillage, a mixture of mud, Spanish moss and animal hair.





Natchitoches Heritage Art Gallery

- Free
- Tues. - Thurs. 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Fri./Sat. 10 a.m. – 8:30 p.m., and Sun. 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- 584 Front St., Suite 102
- (318) 352-1626
- 1.4 miles 27 min.

Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame and Northwestern Louisiana History Museum

- $4 students/active military, $5 adults, children under 12 free.
- Tues. - Sat. 10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Sun. 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. Closed Mon. and state holidays.
- 800 Front Street
- 1.6 miles 31 min.



Natchitoches Shooting Range

- Open to the public
- Wed-Fri: 2-8 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.-8 p.m., Sun. 2-8 p.m.
- 635 Tauzin Island Road Natchitoches, LA
- (318) 356-9457
- 8.0 miles 16 min.

Oakland Plantation

- Free
- Open Daily 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- 4386 LA Hwy 494, Natchez, LA 71456
- 10.0 miles 17 min.

Magnolia Plantation Complex

- Free
- Open Daily 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. for Self-Guided Tours
- Main House: privately owned and not open to the public
- 5549 Hwy 119, Derry, LA 71416
- (318) 356-8441
- 25.2 miles 27 min.

Baseball leaves series empty handed **0-3**



Southern Miss beats Demons with double-digit hits in each of the three away games this weekend.

Photos by Joe Harper

Strong batting beats Demons

REGINALD WILLIAMS
Sports Writer

The Demon baseball team wrapped up a less than stellar weekend series against the Golden Eagels of Southern Miss this past weekend, losing the series 0-3. The 0-3 series dropped NSU to 3-4 on the season after a nice 3-1 start with a one-game cancellation.

The first game last Friday was a highly contested bout that saw the Demons come out firing on all cylinders but ultimately losing the game 8-5. The then 7-0 Southern Miss was a regional finalist team in last seasons NCAA tournament so they were definitely to be respected.

Southern Miss looked like a regional team getting double digit hits in each of the three games of the series.

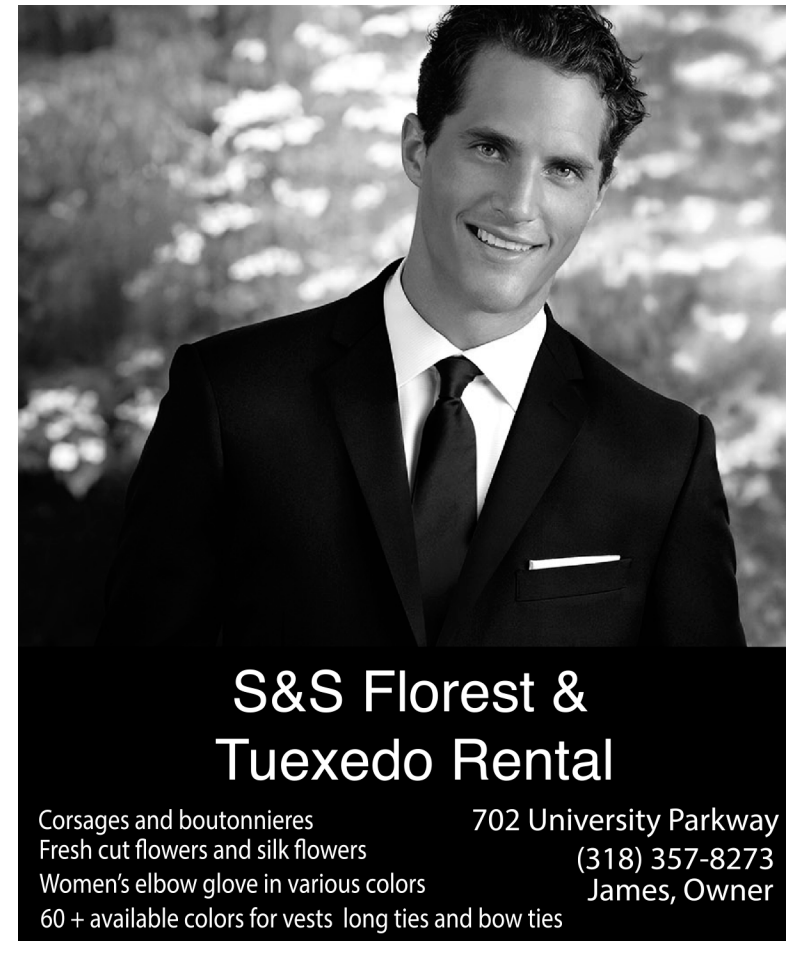
The second game on Saturday was a disappointing 15-5 loss that showed just how dominant the Golden Eagels are.

"They can really hit and they're feeling it right now; their first six guys were really tough outs," head coach Lane Burroughs said. "We didn't dominate a couple average plays. You can't do that against a really good team, especially against a team that can hit the way they can."

In the third game Sunday, the Demons looked a lot better than the previous game, but the Golden Eagels were still a little too much to handle offensively as the Demons lost 8-6 in the final game of the series.

"Our offense came alive tonight; I was proud of our hitters and how we competed," Coach Burroughs said. "I'm very proud of the effort and energy and how we never quit. We put ourselves in position to win that game," The Demons are looking to bounce back from the 0-3 series with a win on the road as they prepare to face another power five school in the Wildcats of the University of Arizona in Tucson. The PAC 12 school is 4-3 so far on the season with the Demons looking to level them to .500 with an upset win at their house.

The game is set to start at 7 p.m. central time. NSU is set to return to Stroud field March 11 against conference rival Lamar University.



Can the Warriors break the Bulls' record?

JACOB HICKS
Sports Editor

The Golden State Warriors are on one of the most historic runs in National Basketball Association history. As of right now, they are on pace to beat the best record ever recorded in the NBA, by the Micheal Jordan led Chicago Bulls, of 72 wins in 82 games.

The fact that we are even having this talk right now is rather spectacular. Steph Curry has made it all possible, however, proving himself to be one of the purest shooters ever. From three point range, he is shooting 47 percent, and for his career 45 percent. Ironically, the only player with a better percentage from three is his coach Steve Kerr, with 45.4 percent.

What might make the difference in the Warriors winning more than 72 games is the fact that they almost never get injured. Of course it is impossible to avoid injuries on any team. It's just going to happen. However, Golden State is reducing theirs by shooting from downtown more often. In essence, they are avoiding going inside the paint with their big men.

Triple-double machine Draymond Green has had an All-Star season this year, with 11 of them, three more than the next guy up, Russell Westbrook, and Klay Thomas is just Steph Curry 2.0, with one of the fastest releases anybody has ever seen. Thomas even beat Curry in the three point contest in this years All-Star break.

So who stands in the way of the Warriors potentially being the best team ever? The San Antonio Spurs might have something to say about it. The Warriors still have to play the second best team in the Western Conference three more times, with two of those games in San Antonio.

The Warriors decimated the Spurs 120-90 in their first game, but that was just one game in a very long NBA season. A lot of people forget the Spurs have won 50 games in 59 played. They would be at the very top of the standings in any other season. Golden State also has tough games coming against the Los Angeles Clippers and Boston Celtics.

The Warriors have a huge game coming up this Thursday, March 3, in Oracle Arena when they take on the Oklahoma City Thunder. Curry silenced everyone when they played OKC last Saturday, when he nonchalantly pulled up from 32 feet to hit the game winner in overtime. Social media absolutely exploded after the shot, with tweets from LeBron James and Dwayne Wade

Whether or not the Golden State Warriors can get over the hump or not, we are witnessing one of the best teams in NBA history. Fans need to enjoy it while it lasts because we may never see a team like this again.

Lions hold off Demons' rally, survive last shot to top NSU 84-82

DOUG IRELAND
Sports Information Directory

The 6-7 Southeastern Louisiana forward had 29 points and 19 rebounds, nine offensive, before the Demons missed a last-second shot to win, falling 84-82 to the Lions.

The outcome left NSU (8-18 overall, 5-11 in the Southland Conference) still shy of a berth in next week's conference tournament with two games left. SLU (10-19, 8-8 after its third straight win, and seventh in a row at home) had already clinched one of the eight tourney spots.

The Lions outscored the Demons 24-12 on second-chance points, while outrebounding the visitors 43-33, a decisive factor in a game with 10 ties and 12 lead changes.

SLU senior point guard Zay Jackson made three of four free throws in the last 28 seconds, sandwiched around a 3-pointer by NSU sophomore point guard Devonte Hall with 7.3 seconds remaining to draw the Demons within 83-82. Jackson left the door open when he missed the first of a two-shot opportunity with 5.6 seconds left. After he sank the second one for a two-point advantage, SLU called timeout.

The Demons were able to loop an inbounds pass to Hall heading toward the midcourt line, but after two dribbles, Hall was in traffic heading toward the top of the key and tossed the ball backwards on the wing to Sabri Thompson, whose running 22-footer glanced off the front iron in the waning seconds.

"Our last play didn't work out like we planned, and we took a rushed shot, but Southeastern did a nice job defensively on the play," said NSU coach Mike McConathy. "It shouldn't have come to that.

"The game is Jordan Capps and our inability to match his intensity. One guy just completely annihilated us. He wanted it more. He got the ball, he scored, and if he didn't score it the first shot, he went and got it and scored," said McConathy. "That's as good a game as I've seen from an interior player in the Southland Conference."

Capps posted career bests for scoring and rebounding while making 12 of 19 shots, and rebounding most of his misses. He hit 5 of 7 free throws as SLU, which was making 63 percent at the line entering the game, drained 76 percent (16-21).

NSU got 21 points and a team-best seven rebounds by junior swingman Zeek Woodley, who fouled out for only the second time in his 89-game career. Hall scored 20 and had seven assists while Thompson finished with 18 points and Tra'von Joseph posted a season-high 11.

The Demons had the game's biggest lead, seven, midway through the first half. SLU led by five several times. NSU briefly went on top by one four times in the second half, for a combined total of 2:10 elapsed, the last advantage coming at 73-72 with 3:23 remaining.

"I'm proud of the way we battled," said McConathy. "We kept coming back, we overcame a lot of our mistakes, but even as great as Capps played, if we could have made one less mistake, we come home winners. I'm not disheartened because of our effort."

The Demons will play their final home game Thursday night at 7:30 in the second half of a Prather Coliseum doubleheader with arch-rival Stephen F. Austin. NSU's regular-season slate wraps up Saturday afternoon at New Orleans. One win, or a loss by Nicholls at Central Arkansas Thursday night or in Thibodaux Saturday against SLU, will lift the Demons into next Wednesday's opening round of the conference tournament.





Junior Tra'von Joseph shoots in close call against the Lions. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*



Shores brings unapologetic show to NSU

BONNY BACOCCINI
Staff Photographer

"Welcome to the Church of Del!" was how Del Shores officially opened his free admission show the night of Friday, Feb., 26 in A.A. Fredricks. His show was a comedic and entertaining glimpse of not only his personal life but his professional life as well.

Shores is a successful producer, writer and director from Winters, Texas. He has written seven plays, and four of them have gone on to become films, three of which he has directed. Shores is best known by his fourth play and second movie "Sordid Lives." In Shores' "Sordid Stories," he talks about his life as a preacher's kid, growing up in Texas and his personal fight for equality in the LGBT community.

"It became a cult crazy phenomenon," he said. It then became a TV series that was filmed in Shreveport, Louisiana. He was also a writer and producer for "Queer as Folk" and "Dharma and Greg".

At the beginning of the show, Shores asked the crowd what denominations they associated with and what sexual orientation they were. He adjusted his jokes and stories accordingly so that almost everyone in the crowd would have something to laugh about.

Religion was brought up frequently throughout his show, usually in a satirical or jokingly manner.

During the show, Shores told personal stories about his days in his hometown church. He brought out a Bible and read from it, only to highlight the hypocrisy of using it against homosexuals and their right to equality. Another topic that was brought up during his show was the current Presidential nominees, mainly focusing on Republican presidential candidate Ted Cruz and former candidate Rick Perry.

The stories he told during his performance are chosen for a reason. "I chose stories that I thought would be teaching, in a way, because it shows you how I take stories from my real life and put them into my work," explained Shores.

Shores spent a week in Natchitoches before his show talking to classes and giving advice to theater students. His main message, not only to the Creative and Performing Arts students pursuing careers in acting but also the general audience, was that they should embrace who they are and not let the world around you dictate who you should be.

Welcome to the church of Del!



In Del Shores' stand-up, he mentions Bible stories and presents them in a comedic way. He quotes bible verses and brings up denominations and their various quirky ways.
Photo by Bonny Bacoccini



Right: Shores reads from Genesis, declaring that Jacob was gay. Shores stated that his "fucked up" background is what made his career.
Photo by Alec Horton

Left: Shores is very outspoken about his homosexuality and his fight for LGBT rights. During his stand-up, he showed pictures of public figures, such as Rick Perry and Ted Cruz, that are against gay rights and shut them down with his "P.S. Fuck You" letters.
Photo by Bonny Bacoccini



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Snapchat v. human interaction

CASSANDRA BRISCOE
Copy Editor

Since the launch of Snapchat in September 2011, the app has become one of the most favored forms of social media.

For those of you who have not stepped outside, do not own a phone or who live in a cave, you may not be aware of this world-wide phenomenon. Snapchat is essentially a type of social media that allows you to communicate with others through pictures.

The principle of Snapchat is very simple. You send a photo to a friend, but they can only see it for up to 10 seconds, and then it's deleted.

An estimated 8,796 photos are shared on Snapchat every second, according to research done by Digital Stats/Gadgets. That's a lot of pictures, and I would bet that most of them are selfies, which brings me to my next point.

With plenty of social media websites to choose from in this day and age, most kids would rather stay inside with their iPhone 6S Gold then go outside and throw a baseball or play kickball in the park. I mean, I'm sure you can get a kickball app on your phone that's much easier to handle.

Where does it end? Why do we keep coming up with new ways to not communicate? Whatever happened to MySpace?

Well, I'm here to tell you that Snapchat might be the worst yet. Countless studies show that social media encourages narcissism.

We look to Facebook to see how many friends we have, because that obviously represents how popular we really are. We look at Twitter to see all of our followers, and we thrive on notifications of favorites and retweets.

Then they introduced Instagram, where people patiently wait by their phones to see how many likes their picture garners. Some even delete the picture if they don't reach their goal on likes.

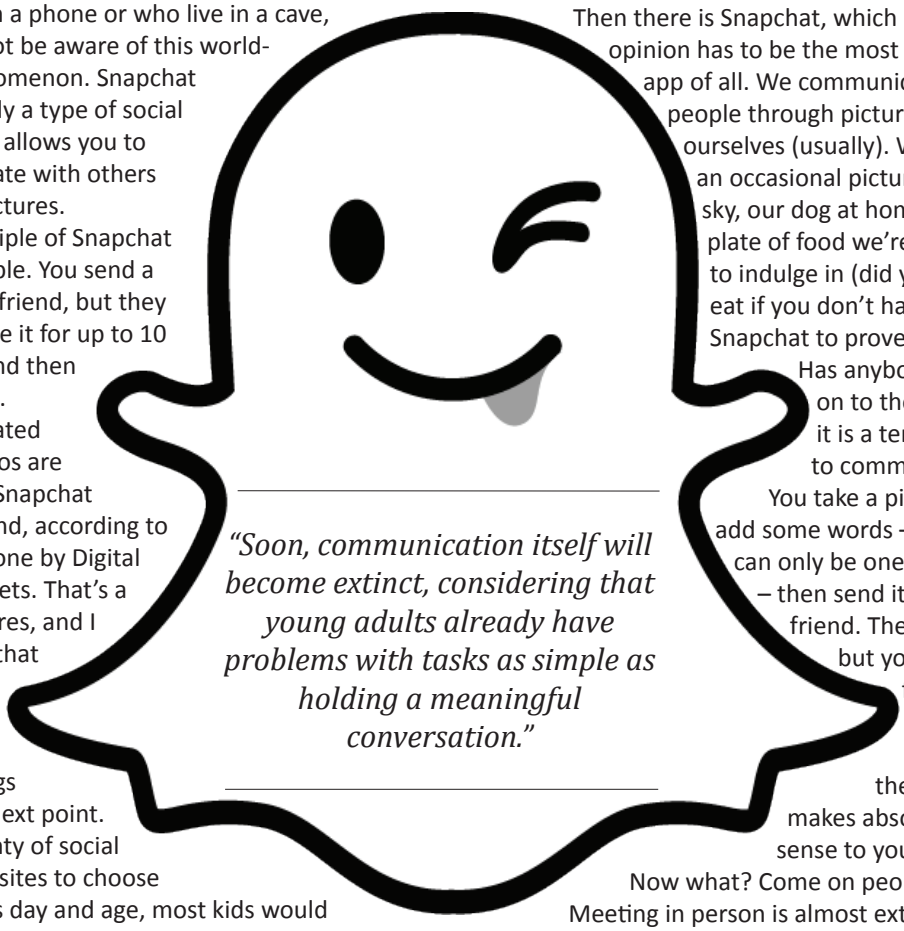
Then there is Snapchat, which in my opinion has to be the most narcissistic app of all. We communicate with people through pictures of ourselves (usually). We send an occasional picture of the sky, our dog at home or the plate of food we're about to indulge in (did you really eat if you don't have the Snapchat to prove it?).

Has anybody caught on to the fact that it is a terrible way to communicate? You take a picture and add some words – which can only be one line long – then send it to your friend. They reply, but you already forgot what you said, so their answer makes absolutely no sense to you.

Now what? Come on people.

Meeting in person is almost extinct, actual phone calls are critically endangered and now even texting is falling out of fashion in favor of this new, shorthand substitute for communication. Soon, communication itself will become extinct, considering that young adults already have problems with tasks as simple as holding a meaningful conversation.

So let's relax with Snapchat and try to put down the phones for a little while. And, just so you know, it is possible to go to a concert without taking a video for your Snapchat story. Once upon a time, people lived without phones and actually enjoyed the music.



"Soon, communication itself will become extinct, considering that young adults already have problems with tasks as simple as holding a meaningful conversation."

Letter to the Editor:

Race, gender and camo

ANONYMOUS
Contributor

Merriam-Webster defines diversity simply as "the state of having people who are different races or who have different cultures in a group or organization." Thus, diversity does not only refer to ethnicity, but also our gender, orientation and cultural backgrounds.

As passionately as my fellow students are pursuing equality of all kinds, as passionately as I would hope we are all fighting sexism, racism and prejudiced phobias, there is still bias and one-sidedness in this so-called spirit of equality. So what on Earth am I referring to?

It's undeniable that "country" people have gotten the stick in recent years. One common picture to see on social media these days is a classroom of students wearing camouflage coats with a caption similar to, "Where did they all go?"

While it is becoming more acceptable for guys to wear skinny jeans and paint their nails, as a Current Sauce article from a couple weeks ago touched upon, people who wear camouflage or similar attire (cowboy hats, boots, etc.) are often written off as uneducated and racist. This is not a made-up issue; I'm speaking from personal experience. It has happened to me and to people I know. You've probably seen it too. And it's not right.

In reality, wearing things like camouflage is simply an expression of our appreciation for hunting and nature. We are expressing ourselves in our fashion, something anyone of any cultural background has the right to do.

It needs to be said that a male who has painted his nails will probably get more judgmental glances than someone wearing a camouflage jacket. I am in no way trying to understate the hardships and challenges of the LGBTQ+ community, the straight community or any community for that matter.

However, I'd rather state my point that we must hold all people to the same standard. Somewhere along the way, we forgot the golden rule: to treat other people as we want to be treated.

Until we start doing that, we will never achieve true equality.

Is Southern hospitality a thing of the past?

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

To people who grew up in the South, Southern hospitality is a cultural norm. As someone who grew up in the North, I found this idea quite odd when I first moved to "The Deep South."

Until I was 15, I lived in the Northern state of Indiana. Born in downtown Cincinnati, I've basically lived my whole life in the North and can honestly say that it does not share this tradition.

In my personal opinion, people in the North are more open to speaking their minds without fear of offending others. In the South, it's the complete opposite. I've found that people here are less likely to say what they actually want and more likely to give you a respectful comment and a "have a blessed day."

Tim Pemberton, a sophomore music business major also from Cincinnati, agreed with me, stating that he thinks this "Southern norm" is a real thing. However, he said with Northerners he "always knows where he stands." He described Southerners, on the other hand, as "really nice to your face, but they say what they want behind closed doors."

Freshman general studies major James Jones grew up in Temecula, Calif., which is about 45 minutes from both Los Angeles and San Diego. Jones has been in Louisiana for almost a year for school and said he appreciates Southern hospitality.

"It's nice to have someone do something for you, especially when they had to go out of their way to do it," Jones said. "I appreciate those little acts of kindness."

Freshman Kylie Steele, a veterinary technology major from Boston, said that, although Southern hospitality is not a commonality, it "ultimately depends on who you are dealing with."

Southern hospitality is a great thing, in my opinion, but I personally don't think that it is a norm in the South, anymore.

While I experience Southern hospitality with some people, it's usually just the older generations. Most students on campus who are from Louisiana don't share that quality. Neither me nor the other interviewees have experienced Southern hospitality from someone our own age.

I personally don't think that Southern hospitality is in fact something that exists in the South anymore. I think that it ultimately depends on the person that you are associating with. True Southern hospitality is something that, like all distinct regional traditions, will soon be a thing of the past.

NS 'U' Voice

Do you think athletic funding is rising at the expense of academic funding?

Gabriella Gomez



Senior
Nursing

"I think that they should probably reallocate some of the money that is being put into the athletics into other programs, because the budget is about to be cut no matter what [...]"

Logan Terrell



Junior
Dance

"I think that the athletic funding has risen, not in correlation with the lack of academic funding, but just because it is constantly going up within the past decade because athletics is such a hot commodity here in the South."

Jhalon Thomas



Freshman
Musical Theatre

"All of their money is put into an allocated fund, and it goes specifically to athletics [...] All the money that academics receives come from not only test scores and school performance, but enrollment and tuition."

Amelia Ryland



Junior
Social Work

"I do think that universities put more money into athletic funding. The revenue that they gain from athletics is then put into academics funding, so it is the easiest way for them to make the most money."

William Keran



Senior
General Studies

"No, but I think funding for the athletic department should be equal to funding for any other departments."

Photos by Clarisse Gaucel

To whom it may matter...

JADE WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

"I can't be the only person who feels a little less than perfect. Thoughts race through my mind about how no matter what, I'll never be good enough.

Looking around, I see this radiant light emitting from every being, yet I can't seem to find my own switch. Oftentimes, I am unable enjoy the success of others without feeling like the biggest of failures.

I'm assuming most people can relate to that feeling of hopelessness. I frequently contemplate the fact that there would be no cease in routine in the event of my absence, that my existence is too insignificant to count. In short, I simply cannot fathom why I would matter at all.

Over time, I've learned that comparing my misfortunes to someone else's triumphs is only a way to set myself up for continuous disappointment. I may not see their failures, but under the surface, they exist just like mine.

Instead of making yourself out to be a failure, believe that things happen with time and that your time is coming. Believe that you matter, because no one else can impact the people in your world like you can.

In an attempt to think more constructively, imagine a world without you, a world that lacks the essence only you can provide. Surround yourself with people who are conscious of that essence. Surround yourself with people who are aware of and know your worth. After all, life is too hard a game to be a single player.

You matter because there isn't a single person like you. A person with your talents, your capabilities and possible contributions to the world would not exist if you didn't.

Whether you know it or not, you're someone's motivation to keep going. Your existence means the world to someone, and to them, you are not replacable.

I can't promise that things will change overnight. I won't swear that taking small steps to better your outlook will put an end to all the negative thoughts. What I can promise is that consciously lifting yourself up for a change will be so much better than tearing yourself down.

We each bring our own spark to the world. The next time you're feeling a little less than perfect, like the biggest of failures, or are trying to fathom why you would matter at all, remember to make every day a holiday. Smile at the little things and be content with who you are, because you'll never be anyone else."

Sincerely, I Matter

Printing etiquette 1010

EMILY FONTENOT
Editor-In-Chief

"The newspaper needs an edge," they said.

"Don't be afraid to tackle real issues," they said.

"It's your duty to publish student opinions, even if they aren't your own," they said.

But that's not what people want. They want to read the paper to reinforce their own worldviews and what they deem "truth." This is in response to all the students, administrators and unaffiliated critics who, over the past year, have voiced their disapproval that the newspaper publishes articles they don't agree with.

swipes tea off desk

This newspaper is *by* the students *for* the students, and that includes students from all corners of campus. We are not here to promote one agenda or to bolster the university's image. We are a collection of voices from an institution where young minds come together to grow into well-rounded adults.

This university should not function as a cog in the bureaucratic machine or a commune for fostering a worldview compatible with one moral compass, nor should the paper.

We should be a safe space for people of all viewpoints. When one voice argues that another is wrong, I'm ecstatic. "Discussion! Growth!" I cheer internally.

But when one group says, "Ban that opinion from your paper, from your university," I immediately flash back to my first grade teacher in private school wagging her finger at me, "Close your eyes, ears, mouth, heart to the world, because their lies may confuse you."

I have a big, big problem with this.

Safe spaces do not mean creating a personalized, sanitized, censored reality for any one group of people. Safe spaces mean believing in the ability of your fellow humans to be valid and beautiful and unique *even if* they don't see the world the same way, and allowing them to do so.

People will offend you, challenge you, confuse you — and the line between this beneficial discomfort and the harmful discomfort that oppresses people is sometimes thin.

The line certainly exists, but we must not draw it between the artificial distinctions of black and white, male and female, religious and irreligious, left and right and what have you. We must draw it where it really is: between those for freedom of expression (safe space) and those for censorship (control/power).

Oppression comes from all angles. The need for power and control seeps into skin colors without prejudice. Everyone, yes, even you, can cause your fellow humans that kind of "harmful discomfort" that violates their safe space.

I can hear a voice in the crowd: "Are you challenging my people's traditional way of life, where we hold the political and ideological reigns of society?"

YES. Yes and amen.

Another voice from the balcony: "But I'm not a white, cis, gun-toting male? I couldn't be guilty of oppressing another person? They're the ones in power, so it's our duty to knock them down, to project malicious intent onto their every move. Now you're saying I am susceptible to corruption, that I too can be malicious, power-hungry and hateful to someone else?"

YES. Yes and amen.

We will publish material that will burst white-washed bubbles, that will cut through emotional rhetoric and prove that the world was indeed painted in rainbow, not in black and white. There is room for all races, genders, sexual orientations and political views to express themselves in a way that is valid and real in this publication.

All we ask is that it follows two criteria:

1. It is truthful to the body of facts in question and defended by logic.
2. That it does not violate another person's safe space (a modern, rounded out concept for free speech).

Take our article about Kesha's court ruling, for example. A writer made the following argument: Sexual assault is wrong, but so is circumventing the legal system. He argued that the following Constitutional right must be preserved: A person is innocent until proven guilty.

There is definitely room for another person to come back with, "You're wrong because of x," "The investigation was flawed," or "Rape shouldn't be treated like other crimes because…" I would welcome these articles.

People have a right to disagree, but not to call for a ban of an opinion from our newspaper, which prides itself on our respect for freedom of expression. The writer did not condone sexual assault in the article, or we wouldn't publish. Period. Individuals can do that on their own media platforms.

We are a place where all humans should feel welcome to express themselves and present logical arguments. Banning their views would be violating their rights.

If you read something in this issue that challenges you, that makes you think critically, or even that makes you angry, we have done our job. Be happy. You're growing.

Write to us. Defend your arguments. We are a university. We are journalists. We will not silence student voices.

We are unapologetically a giant, rainbow megaphone.

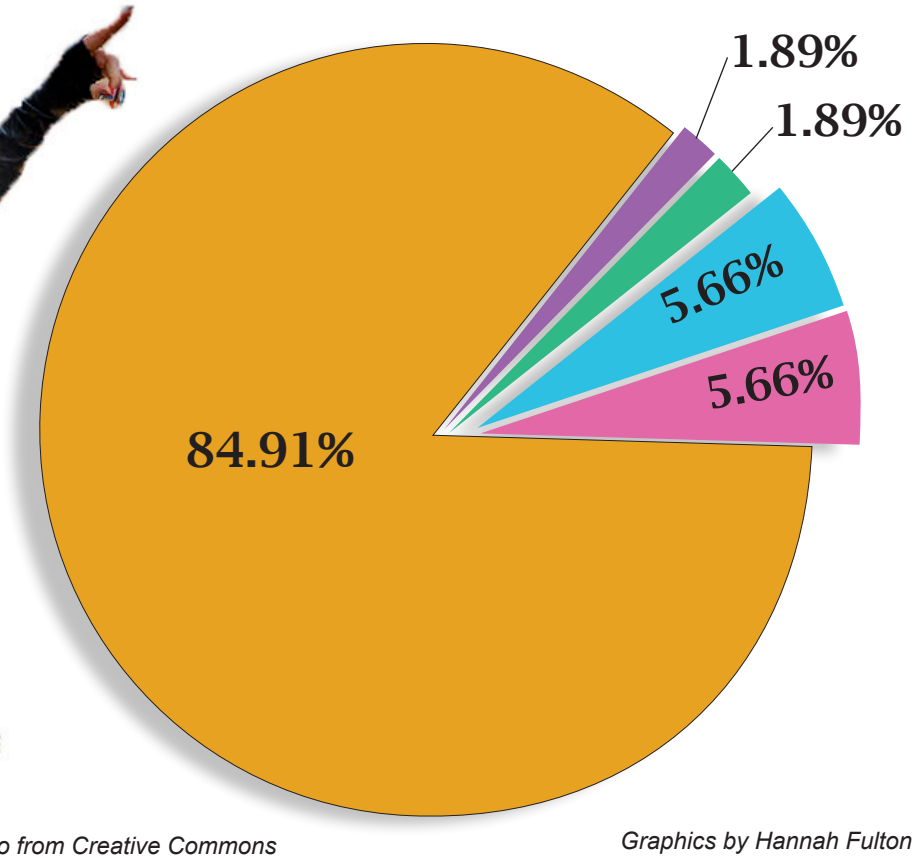
Survey shows student response

Do you agree with Kesha's court ruling?

Ruling: On Friday, Feb. 19, a New York judge ruled against Kesha by not allowing her to break her record contract with her producer on grounds of alleged sexual assault.



Photo from Creative Commons



Graphics by Hannah Fulton

LEGEND

- Strongly Disagree
- Somewhat Disagree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Somewhat Agree

Note : 0 percent of the 53 students who participated in this survey voted "Strongly Agreed."

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THE CURRENT SAUCE

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The battle never ends

Fighting La. abortion act

MEG DENNY
News Editor/Designer



Abortion clinic-escort volunteers speak to pro-choice community members at a rally advocating for the end of Act 620, an act that limits abortion clinics in the state by requiring physicians to attain admittance privileges from local hospitals. *Photo submitted by New Orleans Abortion Fund*

Around 10,000 women seek an abortion in Louisiana each year, according to Executive Director of the New Orleans Abortion Fund (NOAF) Amy Irvin. Act 620 signed by former governor Bobby Jindal in June 2014 may affect that number by again threatening the closure of two of four operating abortion clinics in the state.

Act 620 requires physicians working at these clinics to gain admitting privileges to a local hospital in order to operate. While two clinics have these privileges, Hope Medical Group for Women in Shreveport and Women's Health Care Center in New Orleans, two are unable to acquire them. These two in danger are Delta Clinic of Baton Rouge and Bossier City Clinic.

Irvin said that physicians run into issues gaining admitting privileges for a number of reasons. Hospitals may restrict clinics from gaining access because they do not want to come under the scrutiny of groups against abortion.

"When the physicians in New Orleans received admitting privileges, the protesters were outside of the hospital and had meetings with hospital administrators," Irvin said.

Additionally, hospitals want to give admitting privileges to physicians who are going to admit patients regularly. Irvin said that admittance rates for abortions are very low and that most complications can be handled in a clinic setting. All clinics have transfer agreements with the hospitals already, but Act 620 requires a more serious contract.

Senior social work major Victoria Hebert believes the state's regulations on abortions are justified. She described the abortion procedure as dangerous for the mother and child.

"I do not believe that there is such a thing as a safe abortion," Hebert said. "An abortion can lead to complications, and there have been cases that the baby survives."

> **"Life begins at the moment of conception; every life should be valued and respected."**
> **- Senior Victoria Hebert**

The current state regulations on abortion include the following: a mandatory face-to-face counseling session regulated by the state, a 24-hour waiting period between the counseling session and the procedure, a ban stating that after 20 weeks a woman cannot have the procedure, parental consent for those under 18 years of age and a ban on the public funding of abortion access.

Hebert takes pride in Louisiana's regulations on abortion and hopes that there are more regulations to come.

"Life begins at the moment of conception; every life should be valued and respected," Hebert said. "I believe those regulations are a step in the right direction, but it's not enough."

Sophomore Maddie Fry, on the other hand, believes the government should have no part in abortion clinic restrictions.

"I personally don't think the government should even have a say in how they operate," Fry said.

On Feb. 24, the U.S. Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled this Act 620 into effect, and Delta and Bossier City became unable to perform abortions. Delta Clinic could only offer the first mandatory counseling session for pregnant individuals, and Bossier City stopped running completely.

When these clinics became unable to perform abortions, Women's Health Care Center and Hope Medical Group for Women had to increase work hours and procedures. Women seeking abortion access had to drive to either New Orleans or Shreveport to receive it.

During this time, Irvin said the New Orleans abortion clinic received help.

"There was an outpouring of support from the community… Clinic-escorting volunteers came to help, people offered to take calls, and some even cooked meals and cookies for the staff working later hours," Irvin said.

NOAF and the Louisiana Coalition for Reproductive Freedom held a rally on March 2 at the Fifth Circuit Court. One hundred people attended the rally, including clinic escort volunteers, medical students, clinic administrators and additional community members.

> **"These men vote on rights that are sacred to women and women alone."**
> **- Sophomore Maddie Fry**

On March 4, the Center for Reproductive Rights requested an emergency stay on the act, halting the bill until the legislative session in mid-March. The Supreme Court granted it and allowed the two clinics to continue operating after two months of restriction.

Fry was relieved that the Baton Rouge clinic was able to proceed with offering abortion access but frustrated about Act 620.

"A majority of the people who make up the positions of high authority in our government are men, and these men vote on rights that are sacred to women and women alone," the theatre major said.

"These laws impact poor women, young women, women of color—that's really who is most affected by these anti-choice bills," Irvin said.

"What I hope the Supreme Court really takes into consideration are the stories from patients."

In the next legislative session, which begins March 14 and ends June 6, 12 bills requiring heavier regulations on abortion access will be up for approval, according to Irvin. After this, citizens will learn the fate of Act 620 and the other potential regulatory bills.

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Former First Lady dead at 94

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

The 40th First Lady of the U.S., Nancy Reagan, passed away in her Los Angeles home on March 6, due to congestive heart failure at the ripe young age of 94.

Nancy was born on July 6, 1921, in Flushing, New York. Nancy will be laid to rest on March 11 at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California. Nancy will be buried next to her late husband, 40th President of the United States, Ronald Reagan, who died in 2004 due to Alzheimer's.

Before entering the White House with her husband, Nancy was seen as a snob by some Americans. This only intensified after the Reagans moved into the White House. The first thing that she did as the First Lady was completely redecorate the entire White House. This project, in many eyes, was frivilous and irresponsible. Even though the project was privately funded, she was accused of living a lavish lifestyle and not caring about real issues Americans were facing.

American citizens' perception of Nancy shifted in 1982, when she released her campaign, "Just Say No." The program was designed to teach children to "Just Say No" when offered drugs; however, the program was criticized for being too simplistic. Nancy then got the "National Crusade for a Drug Free America" act passed in 1986, becuase it was signed by her husband. Nancy is known for her crusade against drugs and her laborious efforts to make America drug free.

Whilst trying to make America drug free, in 1987, almost at the end of Ronald's presidency, Nancy was diagnosed with breast cancer and had her left breast mastectomized. Nancy was heavily criticized yet again, defending herself by stating in 1988, "I couldn't possibly lead the kind of life I lead, and keep the schedule that I do, having radiation or chemotherapy."

After the Reagans left the White House, Nancy changed her focus to after-school drug prevention programs around the country. Nancy also started to volunteer most of her time at the Reagan Presidential Library, the location where her and husband will be buried together.

In 1994, her husband Ronald was diagnosed with Alzheimers, and Nancy became his primary caregiver, spending the majority of her time taking care of her late husband. She cared for him for a decade until 2004, when his fight with Alzheimers ended. The couple had been together 52 years at the time of Ronald's death and had been married since March 4, 1952.



NSU's flags hang at half mast after President Obama calls for this action to honor Nancy Reagan. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

In a Yahoo! News Live interview with Katie Couric, former Secretary of State and Reagan's National Security Advisor from 1987-1989 Collin Powell commented on his experience with Nancy during his time in the White House.

"I think she played a proper roll as First Lady. The criticism she took was for the most part unwarranted in my opinion," Powell said.

He also described her as having a commanding presence.

"She had influence, and there was no question about it. But we never thought that she was giving us orders, or that she was in charge of the White House, and I found that she was an extremely helpful person to have in the White House."

Nancy joined her husband on March 6, in her Los Angeles home. Nancy will always be remembered for the drug reforms that she fought so hard for, and her undying love, not only for Ronald, but also the American people.

Student Government Association

Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 7

•SGA is looking into making their office more inviting. This involves organization, decorations and staff presence.

•The leadership luncheon moved to April 4 from 11 a.m-1 p.m.

•SGA is partnering with First Year Experience, Student Life and Leadership Development to bring a leadership conference to NSU students. The conference will bring in speakers to train students on leadership development, risk management, social excellence, recruitment, self-government and prevention.

•A bill passed that requires SGA to send a letter to state legislators that encourages them to advocate for higher education in the midst of budget cuts.

Fall leadership openings

Applications available March 17-24. **Due March 24**

For The Current Sauce and Potpourri, pick up applications outside of 225 Kyser. For KNWD, pick up at 109 Kyser oustide of radio station. For Argus, pick up in Room 318 Kyser.

KNWD radio
General manager

The Current Sauce
Editor-in-Chief

Potpourri yearbook
Editor-in-Chief

Argus
Various Positions

Demon baseball ends losing streak

CAITLIN LACOMB
Contributing Writer

After coming off a 0-3 losing streak against Southern Mississippi, Demons took Hi Corbett field this weekend in the Arizona Wildcat Invitational.

This weekend's tournament was a big challenge, as they faced University of Arizona (2012 National Champions), CSU Bakersfield (2015 Regional Team) and St. Mary's of California. This tournament was similar to regional play due to the number of teams taking the field.

On Friday, March 4, Demons put a 6-4 victory over the Arizona Wildcats. With solid pitching, the Demons were able to hold off the Wildcats, wellknown for their batting abilities.

With a ninth place spot on the Demons' "All-Time Innings Pitched" list, junior Adam Oller pitched six innings against Arizona. Freshman Nathan Jones and junior Devin Bear also made notable holds by contributing three scoreless innings.

Junior Daniel Garner led the Demons in batting with three hits and one RBI (run batted in). Senior Court Brinson helped to seal the win with seven putouts against the Wildcats.

Demons made a 9-3 turnaround win over St. Mary's (California) on Saturday morning. Senior Evan Tidwell led the Demons in a solid defense, just what they needed to secure their win. Court Brinson made contributions to the win with 13 putouts.

Aside from the strong defense, the Demons stepped up to the plate offensively against St. Mary's. Junior Nick Heath and Kelsey Richard led the Demons in offense with three hits each, Heath having two RBIs and Richard having one.

Sunday the Demons played a double header, the first game set in the morning and the second at night. They made a successful turnaround after suffering a five-run deficit and secured their 9-7 win over CSU Bakersfield after stepping up their offensive play. Brinson and sophomore David Fry led the Demons with three hits each. Fry also contributed with one RBI.

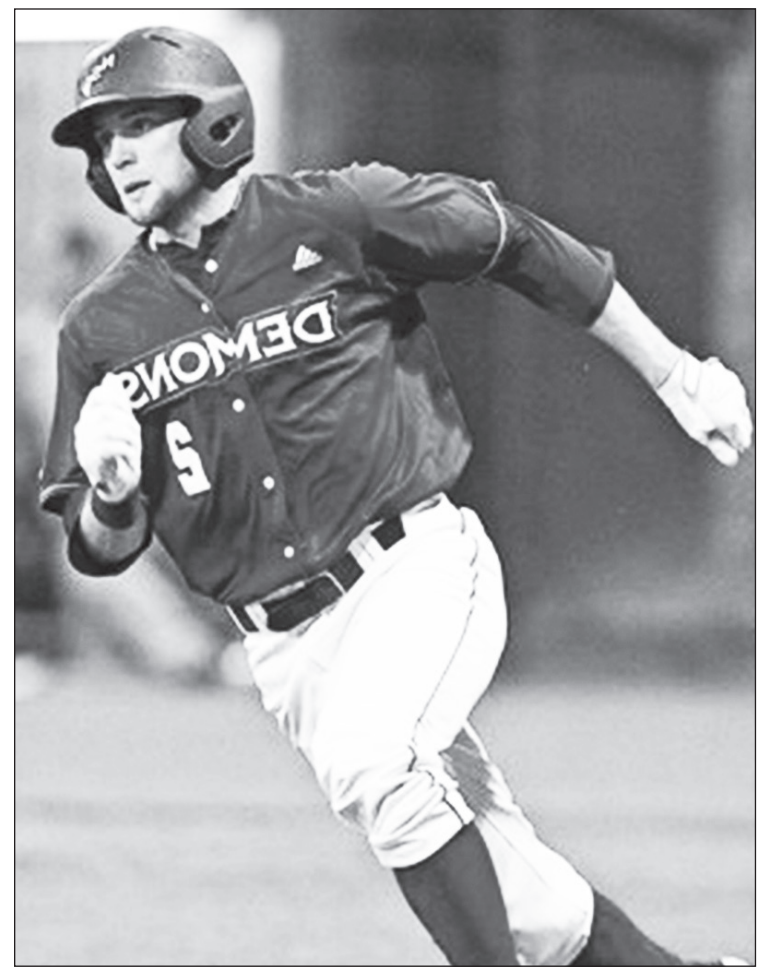
Senior Nathan Aultman came in after a rough pitching patch and gave the Demons significant relief, enough to get their offensive game together. Brinson, having the most putouts this weekend, left the game with seven. Junior Spencer Goodwin had the most assists of the weekend, totaling five.

Their second game proved to be the most challenging of all. After previously playing three games, the Demons lost their battle against the Arizona Wildcats with a 1-4 score.

"Our pitchers competed their tails off, and we had some calls that didn't go our way," Head Coach Burroughs said in an article on NSU Demons' website. "I couldn't be prouder of our guys, flying across the country and coming out and playing well. From where we were last week to where we are this week, we're a much better club. If we keep getting that much better, we'll be OK."

Heath carried the Demons with one run, and senior Chase Hymel battled with the offense for a total of five innings. Assisting Hymel was Brinson with seven putouts and one assist.

The Demons go back to the field on Tuesday, March 8, at College Station. They are scheduled to play No. 2 Texas A&M in a two-game series. They will take Blue Bell Park and are scheduled to make their first play at 6 p.m.



Outfielder Matt Valdez makes his first career home run in the Demons' second inning against Arizona at the Wildcat Invitational. *Photo by Gary Hardamon*



MLS new season full of storylines

JACOB HICKS
Sports Editor

Major League Soccer started its new season on Sunday, March 6, and it's shaping up to be an exciting one. A lot of storylines are coming over from last season.

Last year, the Portland Timbers won their very first MLS title when they beat Columbus Crew SC 2-1 in Columbus. The Timbers look to win back to back titles since the Los Angeles Galaxy did it in 2011 and 2012. Portland and Columbus squared off again in the season opener on Sunday, winning the game by the same score 2-1, even after Columbus' Federico Higuain scored a beautiful, behind the back bicycle kick in the 68' minute to even it up 1-1. Portland looks even better and hungrier than they did last year, and that's a scary thought for every team in the league.

About three hours north, the Seattle Sounders are still looking for their very first title. Seattle has got to have the best fans in all of the MLS, with an average attendance of 44,247 people, beating the next team up by more than 10,000 people.

The Sounders made big waves in the off season when they signed Jordan Morris to the richest homegrown player contract in MLS history, at $675,000 for three years. Morris was wanted all across the league and even outside the United States, when he led the University of Stanford to two goals in a 4-0 win against the University of Clemson.

All the way on the other side of the country, new club Orlando City SC are looking to make their first playoff series. Orlando City played its first season ever last year, having a not so bad record of 12 wins, 14 losses, and 8 draws. The team drew instant appeal, when one of the first players they ever signed was wellknown Brazilian soccer star Kaka. Kaka has played for some of the biggest clubs in the world, like Real Madrid and Milan. He even won the World Cup with Brazil back in 2002.

On Sunday, Orlando City had one of the latest comebacks in soccer history. Down 0-2 to Real Salt Lake, Orlando scored two goals in late stoppage time by Cyle Larin and Adrian Winter in the 90+4' and 90+5' minute to recover a vital point in a 2-2 tie.

This season of Major League Soccer is definitely looking to be a fun one to watch. Week two of MLS begins on Saturday, March 12, with big games coming up with the Houston Dynamo and FC Dallas playing in the Texas Derby. Two of the original MLS teams face off with DC United traveling to Boston to take on the New England Revolution.

Facebook censorship

SAVANNAH BASSETT
Staff Writer

On Feb. 26, Zuckerberg held an important meeting with his employees about incidents of racial insensitivity within headquarters, leading to an international discussion about the legality and effectiveness of censorship on the popular social media site.

Zuckerberg also traveled to Germany, communicated with their chancellor, and made the decision to help monitor antisemitic posts about migrants in Germany that are being put on the site.

The idea of Facebook monitoring user posts started a discussion regarding censorship in the media, but the First Amendment gives nongovernment-controlled websites the right to devise their own rules and regulations; coincidentally, Facebook falls underneath that category, so they are within their rights.

Throughout Facebook's headquarters, employees and guests can leave messages or signatures on a number of whiteboards and chalkboards. An article by Hope King featured on CNN Money stated, "people have been crossing out 'black lives matter' on the walls of Facebook's headquarters and writing 'all lives matter,'" which frustrated Zuckerberg.

Zuckerberg organized a Q&A meeting, along with a long memo sent out to staff. In the memo, Zuckerberg supplied his own definition of the Black Lives Matter movement stating, "'Black lives matter' doesn't mean other lives don't. It's simply asking that the black community also achieves the justice they deserve," as quoted in a CNN article.

Along with policing the walls within the company, Facebook "will likely police posts from Germany containing antisemitic comments about refugees," according to a recent article in Metro.

After an influx of migrants into Germany, officials have been worried about cyber abuse through social media. Germany's Chancellor Merkel instituted an open-door policy for refugees seeking protection after many countries placed laws limiting entry. In 2015, Zuckerberg met with Merkel to talk about the issue.

In a town hall rally hosted in Berlin this past week, The Guardian quoted Merkel as saying, "hate speech has no place on Facebook in our community."

Zuckerberg's attempt to combat the issue of racism has made people question if Facebook's censorship rules will change. The first thing to note is that Facebook is a private organization. It still has rules and regulations, but according to an article in The Economist, "The First Amendment to the American Constitution only guarantees that national, state and local governments will respect freedom of expression."

This means that since Facebook is not funded by the government, it has control over what is deemed appropriate to post and what is not. The anonymous author of an article published in The Economist, however, questioned the effectiveness of Facebook's present policies and methods of censorship.

When the article's author happened to discover an antisemitic page, they decided to report it to Facebook. After not receiving an update on the page's status, they took it upon themselves to see if the page was still active. Sure enough, the page was still present on Facebook.

Not long after, the author of the article then received a notification saying that "the original complaint had been reconsidered and that the page had been taken down after all." By this time doubt had arisen that Facebook would actually remove the page for good. The author decided to check one last time and mysteriously, the page popped back up.

The incident brings into question the amount of attention paid to inappropriate and threatening material circulating on the site. If this can go unnoticed, will Zuckerberg's plan to fight antisemitism truly work, or will it only fall through?



Guest trombonist Dr. Eddie Elsey performs a trombone concerto backed by Northwestern State's Wind Symphony on Feb. 1. *Photo by Alec Horton*



Julianna Carmouche, sophomore criminal justice major, plays the flute during the Wind Symphony concert. Approximately 60 percent of the 309 students participating in the NSU band program are non-majors. *Photo by Sheila Humphrey*

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SATIRE

Without Hollywood I am nothing

ASHLEY WOLF
Staff Writer

As a free American, I prefer that the entertainment industry treat me like a liberated idiot. I am free to be as stupid as I please, and Hollywood must prey upon my small and simple brain so they can produce giant piles of money and thus support our great American economy.

I will live off of Cosmopolitan's sex tips and watch that one E! Network show about the least popular Jonas brother and his whiny wife. I will hang upon every insignificant detail of celebrity gossip because, without it, I would not have a way to pass the time, and my life would be empty and meaningless.

I don't even go to the grocery store to buy food, but instead go so I can get the latest scoop from Us Weekly about who is cheating on whom, what is hot and what is not, how to lose weight faster than the speed of light and how to keep my man satisfied. These are the things that matter. Without TMZ, the E! Network, celebrity gossip magazines, that Joan Rivers' show that mocks celebrity fashion choices and websites that use celebrity sex tapes as click bait, I would not be the person that I am today.

I will never forget Jennifer Lawrence's iconic pixie cut of 2013, which broke the Internet even before Kim Kardashian's shiny butt did. It even broke the TV when her haircut was a headline on the Today Show. However, I think the whole Kardashian family has been breaking the TV for several years now.

The greatest highlight of my life is the annual Academy Awards. It doesn't matter that a plethora of other movie awards exist, including the Critics' Choice Awards, awards from every single guild involved in the movie-making process, the Film Independent Spirit Award and the British Academy Film and Television Awards, which is the posh version of the Oscars. I've never watched it before, but my qualifications as a media-consuming simpleton verify me to tell you that this British awards show has way more cups of tea, sweetened with the sugary use of "bollocks" and dollops of "bloody" to make the pompous tea party complete.

Jennifer Lawrence attended the Oscars, of course, and she didn't even trip over her dress this year. I was a little disappointed about this because the falling-down-bit is one of the only things that makes her the "super relatable one," aside from her other two normal-people hobbies, which include eating pizza and binge-watching Netflix. Even though I know other people who are also down-to-earth and like pizza, these traits show that she is the only member of the Hollywood elite who pretends to be a human.

I like to treat the Oscars like a science experiment. I am just a lowly peasant, but I use my scientific skills to study this strange and exotic species we call "celebrity." Whenever someone does something human-like or mildly relatable, I make a note of it, or a tweet about it. Sometimes I make an unnecessarily long Facebook post about it, depending on my mood. It's all a part of an ongoing investigation on how closely celebrities are related to Homo sapiens.

So far, chimpanzees are still thought to be more like us. But when Leonardo DiCaprio and several other celebrities wolfed down Girl Scout Cookies at a rate similar to that of pre-celebrity humans, it made us question whether the celebrity species is closer to us than we thought. It was vastly fascinating.

Of course, just like "Planet of the Apes," the celebrity species' intelligence rivals ours, and it may be a part of a plan to trick us and take over the world. It actually kind of feels like that has already happened since Donald Trump has entered the presidential race and the total revenue of all Oscar-related events has totaled over $109 million this year.

J-Law is especially cunning in using a uniquely human concept called "awkward humor" to fool us. But her $52 million salary doesn't fool me, and neither does the $250,000 gift bag she and 24 other white nominees and one Mexican received. It seems that this Hollywood species might be a little prejudiced, if not just a tad materialistic.

The gift bag includes a $275 box of toilet paper, which may prove that evolution has caused the celebrity race to develop more sensitive assholes, although we are not sure about this. But, we do know that the celebrity species are sexual beings, as a $250 vibrator and something called a "Vampire Breast Lift," around $1,900, was included in the basket.

Furthermore, we know that with the amount of spa treatments, personal fitness sessions, weight-loss gummies and personalized M&M's, the vanity of the celebrity species rivals that of humans. But one thing remains: the $250 vaporizer in the gift bag proves that both humans and celebrities are down for that vape life.



Some of the items you could get at the 2015 Oscars. If you didn't win the phallic statue, at least you could wipe your tears with $275 toilet paper and console yourself.

Started from the bottom

JOSHUA FONTENOT
Staff Writer

You might be cringing at the thought, but hear me out, because I am about to make you a believer in the Kardashian way of life.

Now more than ever, it is almost impossible not to be "Keeping Up with the Kardashians."

You find yourself pleading "why" every time one of their names explodes onto your news feed, but the answer is right in front of your face: marketing, marketing and more marketing.

Although it is an earth-shattering thought, the Kardashian empire was not always in tact. Their path to fame may have been paved by their late father, Robert Kardashian, friend and lawyer to O.J. Simpson.

Then the ultimate "momager," Kris Jenner, divorced Robert in 1991 and toted her three children into her next marriage with Olympic superstar Bruce Jenner (now Caitlyn Jenner).

But a young Kim K always knew she would be famous. The proof is in an eighth grade graduation video when she made a spot-on assumption for her future.

"Does everyone get a tape of this?" asked Kim. "I hope you do so you can see me when I'm famous and remember me as this beautiful little girl!"

In 2003, the reality TV take over began (sort of). Kim appeared on "The Simple Life" occasionally with her elementary school friend and then employer, Paris Hilton.

While Kourtney and Khloe Kardashian were busy launching their clothing store "Dash" in 2006, Kris was busy cooking up a scheme to get her family onto television. In 2007, she pitched a reality show to Ryan Seacrest. He later accepted, and a legacy was born.

"Keeping Up with the Kardashians" debuted Oct 14, 2007, while Kim made another type of debut that same year. Rumors have run rampant for years that Kris auctioned off her daughter's sex tape with Ray-J.

"I started looking at our careers as pieces of a chess board," admitted Kris in her memoir back in 2011. "Every day, I woke up and walked into my office and asked myself, 'what move do you need to make today?' It was very calculated. My business decisions and strategies were very intentional, definite and planned to the 'nth degree."

We skip ahead a few publicity stunts and years later to see a familiar face spotted with the always problematic Kanye West. Kim and Yeezy began dating in 2012 and had their beloved daughter, North, in June of 2013.

Cosmopolitan magazine even went as far as to name the Kardashian Klan America's "first family" in 2015.

It is nothing short of the truth to state that this family has capitalized on nearly every aspect of their lives.

With the Jenner sisters old enough to latch on to the empire and their outcast brother, Robert Jr., weaseling his way back into the picture, they've become nearly unstoppable.

Modeling contracts, make-up brands, dating drama and even a selfie book have sprung this family into overdrive.

Kylie Jenner has millennials hooked on almost every social media platform, Kendall has taken the fashion world by storm, Caitlyn Jenner—whether intentionally or not—has given the family even more attention and every couple of months a new child is born into the family name. KUWTK is also in its 11th season and does not seem to be coming to an end anytime soon.

If you ask me, instead of spewing hate at this beautifully contoured, lip-injected ban of entrepreneurial socialites, you should be taking notes. Perhaps if you did, you too could "break the internet."

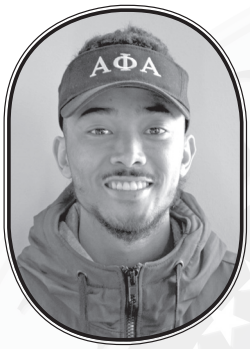


Graphic by Hannah Fulton

NS 'U' Voice

If you were president of the USA, what would you change to improve our country?

Joseph Guidry



Senior
Indust. Engineering Tech

"I would focus on putting more funding into our school system so we would not be in this mess right now."

Korey Rachal



Junior
Mass Communication

"I would change...government spending for our country. Also, I would change the policies for our education system here in the U.S."

Nolan Lowe



Senior
Biology Education

"I would think of some new ways to include taxes...or some better ways to handle the money for the economy."

Thomas Malbrough



Sophomore
History

"I would first focus on our education as a whole in United States and also focus on global warming because we cannot ignore it."

Photos by Clarisse Gaucel

SATIRE

Weather provides the perfect opportunity to cancel class, forever

JOSH FONTENOT
Social Media Coordinator

A perfect storm hits NSU, but was it too perfect?

With higher education budget cuts on the horizon and threats of university closures, President Jim Henderson promised to take action, and take action he did.

As the evening approached, the god siren spoke as hail rained down upon NSU. While wind gusts set off Purple Alerts—the notification system students assumed we no longer used for emergencies like tornadoes or, say, campus crime—Henderson was content knowing his plan of action was about to unfold.

Henderson decided he would find a way to stay ahead of the game. If he could not stop budget cuts, he'd slowly cut down until there was nothing left to cut.

Watching weather forecasts day and night, Henderson had finally found the perfect moment.

This was it, a three-day storm. When the weather got rough this week, he'd have no choice but to close the school...for good.

The weather had provided Henderson with the perfect opportunity for a school closure. When the weather would clear the next day, he'd explain that the school experienced flooding. The day after that he'd mention that we may not have enough funding to fix the damages in some buildings. The day after he'd distract students with witty Twitter replies. He'd continue this path until finally he announced the school would never open again.



Henderson has been planning on how to pull the university through the latest budget crisis unscathed. Or has he? *Photo by Alec Horton*

He set up his plan perfectly. With new campus construction projects, his real motivations would never be suspected. After all, the Facebook student concerns page hadn't seen disaster in weeks. Things were looking extremely promising.

As Tonia and the kids patiently wait to flee town in the Mazda, Henderson prepares to send that fateful email closing the school for good. So don't sit around waiting. It's all been leading to this.

Clinton, Trump on top following end of Louisiana primary voting

BRIA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The Louisiana primaries echoed what the majority of state primaries have predicted thus far: that Republican candidate Donald Trump and Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton will be party representatives in the fall presidential election.

The Republican party, which had culled down significantly to five candidates, saw its most divisive candidate, Trump, garner 41.22 percent of votes for a tight win over Ted Cruz, who closed the night with 37.84 percent of the vote. The Democratic party showed a much more united front, as Clinton towered over Bernie Sanders with 71.2 percent to Sanders' 23.18 percent.

This year's election was closed, unlike the 2012 presidential primary, meaning only those registered as a Republican or a Democrat could vote, and only for the party for which they are registered.

"I do not agree with having closed primaries," Nick Bailey, a junior pre-veternarian major, said. "I think it's a way to limit who can vote, especially since young people usually don't register."

Fortunately, Bailey did register with a party beforehand and was able to vote. He was surprised that Clinton won overwhelmingly, since his Facebook has been filled with people who "feel the Bern." Bailey was not surprised about Trump's victory, however, because he believes "Louisiana has always been ridiculous."

Chantasia Grasty, a senior education major, said her concern for the future of eduction influenced her vote Saturday. Grasty's younger sister is preparing for college, and she worries about her higher education, among other aspects of her sister's future. She believes that our current President has been an advocate for education, and she is concerned that his predecessor will not give it the same priority.

"When students do not vote, it shows they do not care about education," she said.

Some NSU students have only recently joined the ranks of registered voters. Ontrez Shyne, a sophomore mass communications major, registered to vote last week. After noticing Trump's lead, he decided to register.

Although Shyne did not get the chance to vote in the Louisiana primary, he does plan to cast his vote in the fall election now that he appreciates the impact his vote may have on what promises to be a tight, high stakes election this fall.

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THE CURRENTSAUCE
Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2016
Volume: 101 Issue 21

The God siren spoke, historic flooding affects Natchitoches and NSU students

KIMBERLY MOSIER
Staff Writer

April showers decided to come in March this year, causing record-breaking flooding throughout southern parts of the United States. Some Northwestern students are still recovering.

Within 72 hours, the Northwestern Louisiana region accumulated more rain than it had seen in the past 50 years.

Within the four-day time period between March 8-12, the city of Natchitoches alone received over 16 in. of water, according to the National Weather Service in Shreveport, La. Flash floods occurred in almost all areas near bodies of water in what was nicknamed a "Historic Flooding Event" for the state.

Rainfall amounts totaled four times as much as any of the heavy, prolonged 2015 summer rainfalls, according to the 2015 U.S. Climate Data of Natchitoches.

Meteorologists Quincy Vagell, Chris Dolce and Jon Erdman from the Weather Channel, said the reason behind the flooding was a massive, slow-moving, southward dip in the region's jet stream. The wind inched east across Mexico, then near the Gulf Coast and finally, the wind funneled deep, tropical moisture into parts of the South and Mississippi Valley. This was a rather "unusual pattern" for early March, they write in their online report.

In fact, atmospheric moisture values (known to meteorologists as "precipitable water") topped the March record, and the record of any winter month, in Lake Charles, La., on March 10.

Up a Cane River without a paddle: What happened to college students.

Throughout the time period of the flood, the NSU campuses throughout the state closed and classes cancelled. Some students were left stranded in their homes without electricity and with a surplus of free time.

"The moment that first Purple Alert went out, I imagined everyone popping open a bottle of beer and relaxing in a recliner," senior communications major Dylan Danos said. "I know that's what I did."

For junior music education major Luis Alejandro Gallo and his fellow Colombian roommates, the flood period was far from relaxing. Water breached their house on Caspari Street and seeped into his bedroom. He said he had to move his bed to the kitchen in order to stay dry.

Pearlie Jones, a junior communications major and a campus commuter, said the flooding near her residential area in Natchez, La. is still "very bad." Since she lives on higher ground, however, she only accumulated "ankle-length" water.

"My house is finally dry, but now all the rest of the water is moving to lower-ground residential areas," Jones said. "Water is up to my neighbors' car windows and all the roads to the city are flooded except for one." It is because of that one road that she is able to still commute to her classes. She said she counts herself "lucky" because some people are still stranded.



Another excuse for NOLA to get down and dirty to sick beats for a weekend

Music festival review of Buku Music+Art Project 2016

JOSH FONTENOT
Social Media Coordinator

Although promises of inclement weather threatened to rock the city of New Orleans March 11 and 12, organizers of the 2016 Buku Music + Art Project had other plans in mind, promising that the festival would take place, rain or shine.

Regardless, the music and arts festival sold out at maximum capacity for both days, drawing thousands from local and out-of-state locations willing to brave the weather for a weekend of epic proportion.

As fest goers trekked through the muddy lots through a sea of ponchos and over the train tracks into Mardi Gras World, it was clear that all 15,000 attendees were holding onto a glimmer of hope.

The festival grounds saw light sprinkles during the first sets on Friday afternoon, but the weather quickly subsided revealing attendees in banana suits, thongs, leotards and crop tops. Needless to say, festival season in NOLA had officially begun.

Only 5-years-old, Buku is still making a name for itself in the festival world, but has grown by leaps and bounds. An Electronic Dand Music, Electronic Dance Music, EDM, and hip-hop festival, Buku has done well at drawing in a plethora of artists and attendees. Since its 2012 premiere with headliners included Skrillex and Whiz Khalifa, the fest has continued to attract big names in both scenes. Among this years line-up was Kid Cudi, Future, Crystal Castles, Purity Ring and Cashmere Cat.

As the rain subsided, attendees were finally able to admire the truly artistic side of Buku, as artists covered the blank wall in graffiti and local street performers gave it their all.

The crowd echoed "Saucin' on you" as up-and-coming rapper Post Malone performed his hit single "White Iverson," followed by a slew of songs from his SoundCloud.

The evening continued inside the ballroom, one of two indoor stages, as Crystal Castles packed the building. A frantic light show and distorted vocals made audience members remember why Crystal Castles has been going strong since 2003, even with the loss of original vocalist Alice Glass.

On the other side of the festival grounds, in the Float Den (rightfully named due to the fact it holds numerous tricked out Mardi gras floats), Fetty Wap could be heard beckoning girls to come his way as he asked the audience, "Where are my trap queens?"

Friday night closed out with Above and Beyond, leaving the audience feeling more like family than strangers.

"If you're patient, life comes through for you," the EDM group typed on the big screen as they pulled an audience member onto the Power Plant stage to hit the button, starting the final song.

Other notable performances of the day included Griz, Chvrches and BAAUER.

With millennials in flower crowns, vote for Bernie shirts, tutu's and shirtless frat bro's entered the festival grounds on Saturday, the atmosphere was like no other.

The first notable attraction Saturday was Future, drawing possibly the largest crowd of the entire weekend. He drove the crowd "codeine crazy" as he performed songs from all of his albums, including his mixtape...

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Student clarifies the lyrics use in Rihanna's new hit "Work"
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Interview with a student Trump supporter
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Celebrating the 10-year anniversary of the greatest NSU athletic event
SPORTS | pg 9

Student explains how nationalism will destroy our nation
OPINIONS | pg 10

SGA Minutes

Monday, March 14

•The academic forum is on Wednesday, March 16th at 6 p.m. in the Watson Library.

•The library is back up and running on normal hours, after closures from weather conditions.

•A Speech and Debate tournament will be held on campus March 18 and 19. If students can volunteer their time, they should stop by the SGA office tomorrow.

•Please donate uncrushed empty plastic bottles, egg cartons and toilet rolls for Vice President Chantasia Grasty's senior intern project. Donation box will be located in the SGA office.

•Campus Climate Survey is available online for students to voice their perspectives and experiences related to sexual assault.

•Student body elections are open from March 15 at 8 a.m. until March 16 at 4 p.m. for SGA Treasurer and SAB Representatives at Large.

NSU extends class relief to students



Photos by Steven Sheerin

KIMBERLY MOSIER
Staff Writer

Though classes have started back up for the Natchitoches, Shreveport, Leesville and Alexandria campuses, NSU administrators acknowledge that some students continue to suffer as a result of the downpours.

Dr. Steve Horton, chief academic officer and dean of arts and sciences, sent out a message to all NSU students informing them that the university is willing to accommodate students by providing extensions for assignments and excused absences for face to face and online classes.

Students affected by flooding are encouraged to contact their dean or faculty adviser to discuss lost textbooks or other course materials and the possibility of moving from face to face to online courses.

Six candidates, five states, one night

The presidential primaries continued on March 15 in Florida, Illinois, Missouri, North Carolina and Ohio.

Republican Primaries

- Donald Trump	*621 delegates*
- Ted Cruz	*396 delegates*
- Marco Rubio	*168 delegates*
- John Kasich	*138 delegates*

Democrat Primaries

-Hillary Clinton	*1,561 delegates*
- Bernie Sanders	*800 delegates*

EMILY CARTER
Life Editor

Five states voted in the primary on March 15. Out of the five states, Trump won in Florida, Illinois, Missouri and North Carolina. Kasich won in Ohio.

Rubio withdrew his bid for presidency after his loss in Florida.

Clinton managed to sweep all five states. Clinton now has 761 more delegates.

To win the Republican primary a candidate must have at least 1,237 delegates. To win the Democrat primary a candidate must have at least 2,383 delegates.

Thirty-one states and territories still haven't voted in the primaries.

There are three more debates scheduled during primary season. On March 21 Republicans will debate one last time. Democrats have two debates remaining, one in April and one in May.

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Sign with a purpose



Katelynn Doucet helps Claire Landry and Robert Sellers with their sign language during the ASL workshop.

Photo by Karla Ewing

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

A seven-week sign language class is underway at NSU. Each Monday night in the union, beginning on Feb. 29 and ending April 11, students may start attending workshops located in the President's Room from 6-8 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join at an any time, for no cost aside from the book.

Participants included all ages and walks of life. They will practice vocabulary, grammar and conversation during the classes with NSU Art Professor Greg Downs. He hopes students will come to view sign language as another language, just like any other, with multiple ways to communicate concepts.

Downs pointed out that it is common for people to use English Sign Language, American Sign Language or their own symbols.

He encouraged his students to practice outside of class and be open to constructive criticism. Downs uses interactive teaching styles which engage and enable students to teach each other.

Although Katelyn Doucet is no longer a student at NSU, she continues to travel from LAfayette for the sign language class.

Doucet is self-taught. She began learning sign language two years ago in order to communicate better with her nephew, who was born without cochlear nerves. He has a cochlear implant and is fortunate to have partial hearing.

"I started for him," Doucet said.

Doucet stated that the family is saving for a new type of cochlear implant. This implant would reach the brain and has the ability to greatly increase his range of hearing.

In the past, Doucet has lived with a deaf roommate and become mostly fluent. She stated that she came to the class to work on her grammar and vocabulary. Doucet was accompanied and supported by her boyfriend Robert Sellers, 22, and friend Claire Landry, 20. Doucet wants to go back to school to become a translator.

Senior health and exercise science major Breanna Loran stated that she wanted to attend the class because she thinks sign language could be useful in her future profession, occupational therapy. Loran thinks sign language can be beneficial when working with therapy patients who may be hearing impaired or handicapped.

Loran attended the first workshop and brought Joe Blazio, a junior biology major, to the second. Blazio also aspires to be an occupational therapist.

"It's always good to know," Balzio stated.

Significance of lyrics in Rihanna's new song "Work"

JOSH FONTENOT
Social Media Coordinator

Almost four years had passed since Rihanna released new content, and Bad Gal Riri was starting to become the equivalent of Frank Ocean (Yes, we are still waiting, Frank). Rihanna fans were more than ready for new content when the summer banger BBHMM was released, leading up to her 2016 album "Anti."

But the lead single of the album, "Work," left some fans rather disappointed.

Despite the track being number one on the Billboard Top 100 for three weeks running, the Barbadians musician has come under fire lately. With lyrics like "He said me haffi," and "Him ah go act like he nuh like it," critics are stating she is singing nothing but gibberish.

"Is Rihanna speaking English or illegal Barbadian immigrant?", one Twitter user ranted.

The Grizzle Review stated, ""Work' just works, in all its gibberish filled madness."

But the fact of the matter is she is not singing "gibberish." She is using a Jamaican dialect referred to as patois.

Patois, pronounced "patwah," is an English-based creole language with West African influences. The dialect has its own grammar and pronominal system, and a precise orthography. The dialect originated in the seventeenth century when individuals from Central and West Africa were brought to the colonies as slaves. The language then flourished as slaves listened to the English language and created a dialect which they could use to communicate with each other as well as their colonials masters.

However, this is not the first time the dialect has been used in the American music industry.

Kanye West used samplings of patois in his popular track "Mercy." Other artists including Bob Marley, Nicki Minaj and Kendrick Lamar -- not to mention the infamous Shaggy -- have used the patois.

So the real question that comes to mind is this: Why is Rihanna receiving such backlash for her hit single when others did not?

"The same people that called Rihanna's patois in 'Work' gibberish are the same people that go to Jamaica on vacation, get their hair braided and talk about 'irie, mon'. Don't play," said a Jamaican fan on twitter.

If American listeners would simply use their first-world privileges to employ a quick google search, they would learn what Rihanna is singing in a cultural dialect.

In a world filled with billions of individuals, it is essential to step back from our own norms to view and accept those of others. We must remember how important it is to not only embrace, but learn from other cultures because it helps us grow.

Rihanna is showing the world a different side of music and is broadening cultural awareness.

Most importantly, it is a catchy song..so just let Rihanna work.

Percussion applied music faculty recital



Oliver Molina used a variety of percussion instruments at his recital on Sun. March 13. "For this recital or recitals in general I like to find a common theme so my common theme for this recital was solo instruments like different way you can play them." he said. Molina is an Assistant Professor of Music, Assistant Director of Bands at NSU, and currently persuing a Doctor of Musical Arts.

Photo by Bonny Bacoccini



"People set aside already borrowed time to be paranoid over water water guns. No one that has a major in CAPA should have the time to play it, yet, we all look forward to it every spring semester," Trena Camp said. *Photo by Bonny Bacoccini*

Water gun war for charity

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

The game: Assassin's. The rules: last man standing wins.

The Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America's annual fundraiser "Assassins" kicked off last week with 79 participants, pinning friends against friends in a continuous two-week water gun war.

Phi Mu Alpha is a nationally-recognized fraternity whose primary objective is to promote music in the U.S. The cost to play the game was $3, and with 79 people signing up Phi Mu Alpha raised $237 this year. This is a step up from last year's game, when they had roughly 50 people playing.

"The money from the fundraiser will help us build up our scholarship fund that we've been trying to establish for the past few years," McCandlish said. Once they get the adequate, long-term funding, the Thomas Rogers Scholarship will start to be awarded to music students.

The rules of the game are quite simple: Every player is given a water gun and a target. The player has two weeks to "eliminate" their target by shooting them with the water gun, but they can only eliminate their target outside of buildings, as buildings are considered "safe zones."

"People can use shields, umbrellas, backpacks, etc., when they want to protect themselves as they walk outside," Game Master Conn McCandlish said about the game.

After a person gets assassinated, the person who killed them acquires their target. This elimination cycle continues until the last few weeks of the game, when it becomes a free-for-all. The last man standing after the Great Battle of the Assassins is crowned the winner and receives $20 in cash. This year's game has two special guests added to the list: Dr. Greg Handel and President Dr. Jim Henderson.

Xavier Matthews, a junior music business major who won the game last year, is the man to watch out for in this year's game. Last year, Matthews set the record for the most assassinations in a day, five in total. This is Matthews' third year playing the game.

"I have a different approach compared to others," Matthews explained. "Everyone takes it for a game and gets really into it, then they get burnt out really quick. I think it's all about stamina, as well as mental discipline. Not getting really high anxiety and jumping the gun around your target."

He also said that he was around his target all day and didn't jump the gun, mainly because he had left his gun at home.

In this year's game, Matthews has already taken out three people. Matthews said that he would like the other people playing to know that "the crown is there, if you really want it."

This year's game is still in progress, the assasinations continue, so watch your backs and keep your head in the game.If you are interested, be on the look out for more information next year.

Music festival season begins across the country

BONNY BACOCCINI &
KARLA EWING

Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival is the where biggest artists of the year can be found performing for the masses. Because Coachella is in California, two-and-a-half hours away from Los Angeles, other well-known celebrities roam among the crowd, looking to have a good time just like anybody else.

Last year, there were many pictures and videos taken of Rihanna smoking weed and dancing in the crowds. This year's main headliners are Calvin Harris, LCD Soundsystem and the much awaited reunion of Guns N' Roses. General admission and tent camping passes have already been sold out even though tickets only went on sale Jan. 6.

Lollapalooza is one of the oldest consecutive music festival in the country. In light of its 25th anniversary, the festival has extended the stay to four days of fun instead of the usual three. Bud Light is presenting the ticket give-away "25 Days of Lolla."

Within Lollapalooza is a smaller festival for kids, kidzapalooza. The festival features an art market where people can buy organic apparel, vintage houseware and handmade posters. Headlining at this year's fest are Florence + The Machine, Sam Smith, Bassnectar, Metallica and the forever-famous Paul McCartney.

Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival is a four-day festival that has been held every year since 2002 on a 700-acre farm. This year they are celebrating "15 years of magic."

Bonnaroovians camp in multiple areas of Tent City called pods. Campers can enter Centeroo, the main venue, through the arch, who's design changes each year along with the logo, website and The Fountain. Amenities include the Silent Disco, the Comedy Theater and the Cinema Tent.

Bonnaroo has just installed plumbing, meaning permanent showers, flushable toilets and new water filling stations to keep attendants hydrated. The headlines for Bonnaroo this summer are Pearl Jam, J. Cole, Ellie Goulding, Macklemore & Ryan Lewis and Dead & Company, previously known as the Grateful Dead.

Hangout Music Festival is a beachfront music festival where attendants can relax by the ocean while listening to a blend of crowd and cult favorite or even tie the knot at their Wedding Chapel in the sand.

Along with the view and tunes are rides to enjoy during the festivities, the Mega Drop and Ferris wheel. Those who tire out can get some rest under the shade of Hammock Beach before the next concert. Headliners this year are The Weeknd, Calvin Harris, Lenny Kravitz, Alabama Shakes and Panic!

There are countless festivals all over the country, some in our own backyard. The New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival has been welcoming legendary performers to theirs stages since 1970. During the festival weekends, attendees can wonder around New Orleans taking in it's history and cultural appeal.

Activities around Jazz Fest both entertain and inform festival-goers about the history and importance of African American heritage. At the The Congo Square African Marketplace they can explore exhibitions of ancient crafting techniques and their modern adaptations.

The Voodoo Music + Arts Experience is another New Orleans festival, but with a different vibe. For three days, festival goers in City Park can listen to a variation of artists such as Ozzy Osbourne, Florence + The Machine, Zac Brown Band, Chance the Rapper, Slightly Stoopid and Jack U.

Voodoo features a carnival, and handcrafted jewelry and artisan art can be bought at the Bazaar, found in the Marketplace alongside other unique vendors. The festival also includes large-scale interactive art. As the website states, the festival is "beckoning for you to take a moment and worship the arts." The festival has yet to release the lineup, but tickets will be on sale soon.

Found in the music capital of the world and capital of Texas are two major festivals: South by Southwest and Austin City Limits. South by Southwest, SXSW, is an annual combination of music, film and interactive media in both festival and conference settings.

The interactive media portion will be the first five days, film the first six days and music the last six day; a ten day festival in total.

Austin City Limits, ACL, Music Festival is held in Zilker Park. The festival is an expansion of the ACL TV show, which features concerts by big-name artists aired on PBS. The music festival offers a mini-fest for mini-people (kids), local eats and an Art Market. The 2016 lineup has not been released yet.

Sasquatch! is located at the outdoor George Amphitheater in The Gorge, a unique venue overlooking the Columbia River. The festival is a nine-time winner of Pollstar Magazine's award for Best Outdoor Music Venue and the Billboard Touring Award for Best Amphitheatre in 2015. Headlining this year is Florence + The Machine, the Cure, Disclosure, Major Lazer, Alabama Shakes and A$AP Rocky.

Once each year, tens of thousands of people create a community in the Black Rock Desert, at Burning Man. The festival includes music but is a temporary metropolis created for "radical self-reliance," according to the website. Participants create the city, art and performances. Then, after a week, leave no trace of anyone ever being there.

What is your favorite music festival? Take our online survey, results will be posted in the next issue.



Buku
MUSIC+ART PROJECT

continued from front

"What a Time to be Alive" and his latest work "Purple Reign."

The crowd slowly herded out just in time to catch Purity Ring, Buku veterans, put on one of the most solid performances of the weekend. Following was Earl Sweatshirt, who delivered crisp verses and hyped the crowed despite technical difficulties.

As the festival came to a close, A$AP Ferg got raunchy and even dedicated a song to his fallen comrade A$AP Yams, giving festival goers everything they could have hoped for in a final performance of the night.

The Buku Music + Art Project went above and beyond for 2016 in so many aspects. Here is looking forward to seeing how they plan to outdo themselves next year.

Interview with a Trump supporter

Airrol Angelle, Current Sauce staff writer, interviewed Mathew Westerfield, a senior Business Administration major, on why Donald Trump has his full support in his Presidential campaign.

Angelle: What are the reasons you want to vote for Trump?

Westerfield: *"When Trump talks he talks from the heart. I know where his money comes from. He's paid for his views on his own. If you look at other politicians, their views align with who supports them. Most of Trump's campaign contributions come from himself. Of course people have donated to his campaign, but he doesn't need to support their views. His views are based off of himself. I don't have to worry about whether or not what he says is true. A lot of what he says is pretty heated, misogynistic and degrading to women, but if you look at how other candidates have supported or not supported different bills you can see that they're just pandering to the voters. Hillary Clinton didn't support gay rights, but now she's running for the presidency and the Democratic Party aligns more with the lgbt community. She's changed her views to pander to the voters. I don't appreciate that. Don't pander to whatever gets you the vote."*

Angelle: What are some things that you think will change in America if Trump wins?

Westerfield: *"Immigration, for one thing. I don't find it right that we support illegal immigrants. I pay taxes to support Americans. It's not our problem, we've allowed it to become our problem. I don't think THE WALL is ever going to come through, but it's definitely a step in the right direction.*

With social reform, at this point in our nation's time, we've achieved a lot of what the working class was crying for. The gay community has gotten recognized to get married, which I support. We're trillions of dollars in debt. To support somebody else who wants social reform would just further the debt.

Economic reform is another one. We spend too much money bailing out other countries and big corporations. If executives are playing loose and fast with the money, then why should it fall on middle class America? Sometimes it's more economical for a company to go bankrupt. Trump has the most expertise on how our system works. He would know the grey areas that should be reformed. Who else knows better than somebody who has been able to utilize and abuse it?"

Angelle: Do you disagree with Trump on any issues?

Westerfield: *"Definitely the whole Muslim issue, you know: whether or not we should make Muslims register. It happened in the holocaust. I don't know how he stands on gay rights, but I don't think there's anything he could do to reverse it."*

Angelle: Do you often have to defend your political views to your peers?

Westerfield: *"No, I typically keep my views to myself. It's not my problem to go out and preach how I feel."*

Angelle: Where do you get your political information?

Westerfield: *"My two main sources are Reddit and Facebook."*

Angelle: Is there anything else you would like to mention?

Westerfield: *"Trump's foreign policy. We're becoming second tier to a lot of other countries. Other candidates haven't spoken up about ISIS and what they're doing to Christians. As Uncle Ben said in Spider Man, 'With great power comes great responsibility.' If somebody is committing injustices against humanity, like killing Christians, we have to do something. We've taken out a few key ISIS leaders, but is that enough? Is that enough to combat extremism? Are we doing enough to change their view and secure us as a people? I don't feel like the democratic candidates are going to do enough. They don't have the backbone to stand up to ISIS."*





(Left) Music Education major Allison Mccloud thinks that beanies give off a certain hipster vibe. (Right) Senior Music Business major C.J. Smith believes that beanies are great for year-round wear. *Photos by Hannah Richardson*

Demon Style: Hipster Headwear

HANNAH RICHARDSON
Staff Photographer

The beanie is one of the most popular types of headwear for people in the millennial generation. Usually made of a thick fabric such as wool or fleece, the beanie's primary function is to keep you warm during the winter, but it somehow sticks around throughout the year. Senior C.J. Smith believes that beanies can be worn yearlong.

"It doesn't get too hot wearing a beanie during the summer," he said. "They do keep you warm during the winter. It's just a cool accessory that's available all-year round."

Music education major, Allison Mccloud, thinks that certain types of beanies are made for certain seasons.

"The type of beanie I'm wearing now isn't really for warmth; it's mostly for the style," she said. She also thinks that beanies could been seen as a sort of hipster statement and that this could account for why beanies stay popular among students on campus.

Sophomore history major, Will Faubion, described the beanie as a really simple, universal clothing item.

"What I like the most about it is the comfort. You can make beanies out of a lot of different material," Fabion said.

Beanies can be worn to tie together an outfit, keep you warm or just to make you more comfortable. They could also be used to cover up a bad hair day, and nobody would be the wiser!

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What you could be learning

Unknown majors, minors and concentrations offered at NSU

STEVEN SHEERIN
Staff Photographer

As students browse through the course catalog in search of promising and lucrative career paths, many lesser-known majors and minors go unnoticed.

Freshman Shania Reyes, a veterinary technology major, was surprised to learn of one such degree concentration called consumer services.

“Sounds like someone that helps you shop or eat,” she said of her first impression.

Connie Jones, assistant professor in the department, explained what consumer services was really about.

“[It] offers students well-rounded work in dealing with people in many fields, such as the service industry, child care, banking, housing, clothing and many others," Jones said. "This concentration is all about helping people, which goes well with our motto: ‘Empowering families and communities.’ It’s just trying to make the world a better place.”

After receiving this information, Reyes said that the major sounded like a highly valuable concentration that had been under-appreciated.

"We do need this field in order to sustain our lives, especially in the hospitality industry," she said. "These are the people who serve you and help your days become better.”

Even taking classes in the same building doesn’t guarantee knowing some of the more obscure subjects. That is the case with the Folklife and Southern Culture concentration, found in the English department. Freshman mass communication major, Ashley French is one who says she has never heard of it.

“Since I’m not an English major, I never knew that this major existed," French said. "I’m not from the South, so it’s difficult for me to understand this major more; I feel disconnected with it. To me it also has a weird ring to it.”

Director for the Louisiana Folklife Center, Dr. Shane Rasmussen, explained that this major doesn’t focus solely on Louisiana, but on the South and Southern culture as a whole.

“We have graduates going into careers in preservation, history and national park services," Rasmussen said. "The South are here to help each other, and that is why it makes them happy, with zydeco, gumbo, dance and people who are genuine and essential to their happiness. People try to pinpoint, ‘Why is it cool to be here?’ Because it is.”

Practicality versus impracticality, money versus dreams – every student thinks about this when trying to choose their major or minor. Regardless of what field a student is interested in, there is more to the course catalog than meets the eye, and some lesser-known major may just fit their interests perfectly.



Majoring or minoring in anthropology, classics, creole studies or folklife-southern culture can help on the path to being a museum curator. The average salary of a curator is approximately $51,280. From 2014-2024, people can expect the number of jobs to increase by 7 percent.



Studying entertainment technology can land people a career as a sound or light technician, set designer or broadcast technician. The median salary is around $51,503. Students interested in learning more about these and other uncommon programs at NSU can talk to their advisors or consult their course catalouges.



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Lady Demon Tennis earned three out of four wins at the weekend matches. *Photo by Gary Hardamaon*

Strong play over the weekend lifts spirits for tennis team

CASSANDRA BRISCOE
Copy Editor

The Lady Demon Tennis team competed in a four-game weekend, winning three out of four matches. They played once on Friday, twice on Saturday and wrapped it up with a game Monday afternoon.

The opening game of the weekend series was against Air Force Academy, where the Lady Demons walked away with a 5-1 win.

Olga Bazhanova is entering her second season as head coach and was proud of her team's determination Friday night.

"I'm very happy about the process and the way the girls competed today," she said.

Air Force is historically a tenacious team as they are strong mentally and physically.

Continued online at currentsaucenews.com



Sisters by birth, teammates by choice

CASSANDRA BRISCOE
Staff Writer

The Lady Demon basketball team is one of the most successful programs on campus. Winning the Southland Conference tournament in 2014 and 2015, as well as making two first-round appearances at the NCAA tournament, does not go unnoticed. This year, they finished the regular season in second place, earning them an automatic bye into the semi-finals.

The coaching staff, a husband and wife duo of Brooke and Scott Stoehr, have flipped this program around. Since being on the bench, the Stoehr's implemented four values that their players are responsible for: passion, service, accountability and family.

What's interesting is that two players on the team really are family. Janelle Perez, 23, and Jackie Perez, 19, have been sharing a locker room for the last two years.

Born and raised in El Paso, Texas, the Perez sisters had a basketball in their hands by the time they were taking their first steps. Although they play on the same team now, it wasn't always that way.

Janelle and Jackie attended different high schools. They both played on their schools basketball teams and even got to compete against each other in a game – which Janelle's team won, as she pointed out.

But what makes this duo so interesting is that, when they were younger, they really were not that close. Since coming to college, playing on the same team and living in a dorm together, they have become true sisters.

"Growing up we were never close, so the cool part was learning more about her," Janelle said. "Even though we are sisters, we never had a close bond like we do here."

Although they share a last name, they do not share personalities. Janelle is shy and more to herself, while Jackie is very out-going and social.

Janelle believes that having her sister here has allowed her to break out of her shell, on and off the court.

"My sister has been my biggest supporter," Janelle said. "We play different ways, but she supports me in everything I do. She encourages me... there I times when I think I'm not going to make it and she makes everything so much better. It's just crazy to have that bond."

Jackie believes the feeling is mutual and that she understands Janelle in a way that her teammates can't.

"I know when she's ready to hang out and when she just needs to be left alone, and that's difficult for a lot of people to recognize," Jackie said.

Their parents played a big part in building them into the players and people they are today. Their dad was always the coach; he trained them together and strengthened them physically and mentally. Their mom, on the other hand, was just as important off the court. Between them playing on different school teams and in club basketball, she was driving from one practice, to another practice, to another.

"She has really been our rock through it all," Janelle said.

This coming may, however, Janelle will be graduating and hopefully continuing her basketball career at a professional team overseas, leaving Jackie to try to function without her other half.

Jackie predicts she will be sad at first, but with her out-going and kind personality Janelle knows that she will have no issue socially. What they will miss most is the memories they constantly made.



Since playing together at the college level, the Perez sisters have grown closer on and off the court. *Photo by Shelia Humphrey*

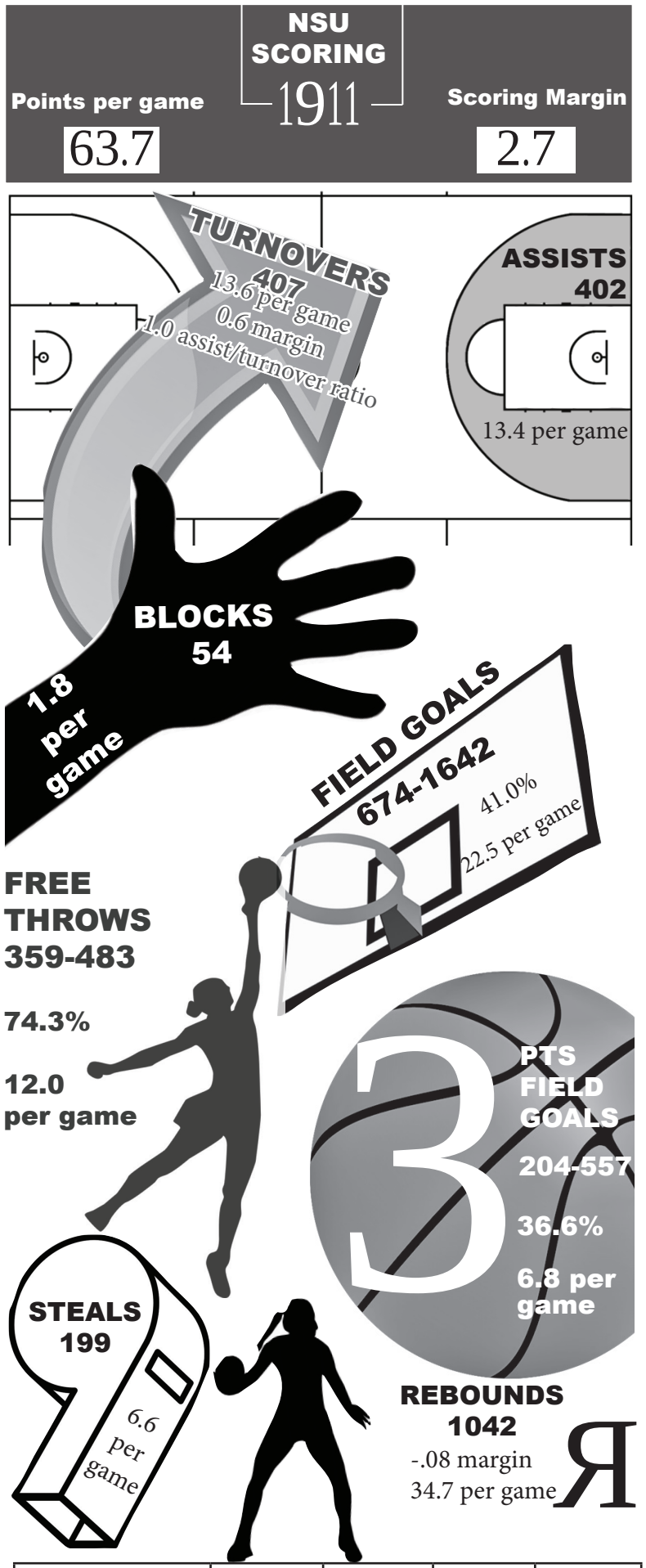
"We always have fun when we are together," Jackie said.

Behind all her individual awards and recognition, Janelle is very humble and grateful for the support Jackie provides on and off the court. Janelle -- who is quite possibly the greatest player to wear the Lady Demons jersey -- thanks Jackie for what she has given her the past two years as a teammate. She pushed her in practice to be the best she could be. At the end of the day, they know each other better than they know themselves.

They may have opposite personalities, but they don't only share a spot on the Lady Demon roster. They share respect, modesty and passion for a game that brings out the best in them. There is nothing quite like getting an assist on a perfect 3-point shot by your sister -- which is exactly what the Perez sisters did in a game against Central Arkansas. In the end, out of all of Janelle's career assists, that may be the one she remembers most clearly.

The Perez sisters are more than great basketball players; they are a perfect illustration of what sisterhood is truly about.

Lady Demon Basketball
2015-2016 Team Stats



RECORD	Overall	Home	Away	Neutral
All Games	19-11	14-1	5-8	0-2
Conference	13-5	8-1	5-4	0-0
Non-Conference	6-6	6-0	0-4	0-2

Tenth anniversary of dramatic basketball win against Iowa

Doug Ireland
Sports Information Directory

The 10-year anniversary of the greatest event in Northwestern State athletic history, the dramatic last-second March 17, 2006 NCAA Tournament men's basketball victory over nationally-ranked Iowa, will be commemorated locally and globally Thursday.

Jermaine Wallace's game-winning 3-pointer with half a second remaining capped a comeback from a 17-point deficit with 8:29 remaining that beat Iowa 64-63. NSU will celebrate the anniversary locally on NSU TV and globally on Twitter.

At 10:30 a.m Thursday, NSU TV will replay the 2006 Demons of Destiny video yearbook followed at 11:10 a.m. by a newly produced roundtable review of the greatest season in Demon basketball history. Looking back a decade later will be Coach Mike McConathy, "Coach Mom" Connie McConathy, along with Luke Rogers, a starting guard on the 2006 team and now a Demon assistant coach and NSU athletic director Greg Burke.

At 11:35 AM, the actual tip time 10 years ago, NSU TV will replay the CBS telecast of the game with fabled announcers Vern Lundquist and Bill Raftery calling the game. That will replay at 6:30 Thursday evening, with the video yearbook and roundtable review replays following the game.

NSU TV is available to cable subscribers in and around Natchitoches on SuddenLink Channel 22, CP-Tel Channel 55 and Lobby Channel 8 for residents of University Place Apartments 1 and 2. A watch party in the Student Union is being held for the midday replay of the game.

The roundtable review show was produced by Davey Antilley, manger/executive director of NSU TV. The 2006 Demons of Destiny video yearbook was a joint effort of D.B. Cooper Productions, headed by Tommy Hazlewood, and NSU Athletics.

The "Demons of Destiny" ignited a storm of national media attention for the program and the university that's become historic. The NSU-Iowa game telecast has been replayed on ESPN Classic, and the game was ranked No. 22 among the "25 Best Tourney Moments" in the past 25 years by SI.com editors. ESPN.com editors listed Wallace's shot among the "Top 16 Game Ending Plays" in the last 30 years of NCAA tournament history. The winning play also won the 2006 Pontiac Game Changing Performance award for that year's tournament. Fan voting resulted in a $105,000 general scholarship donation by General Motors/Pontiac to Northwestern State.

It was voted as the greatest basketball event in 50 years of Southland Conference history, and was selected by fan vote as

Continued online at currentsaucenews.com

Third time is the charm for Lady Demons

REGINALD WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

It's every college basketball fans favorite time of year. March Madness is now in the air, and teams are vying for the chance to make the big dance.

March Madness officially starts with conference tournaments. The NSU Lady Demon hoop-squad was doing well until a tight game with the Sam Houston State Bearkats put them at 78-71 for the conference semi-finale game.

After wrapping up the 2015-2016 regular season in New Orleans with a win over the Lady Privateers 58-46, the Lady Demons clinched a double bye into the semi-finals of the Southland Conference tournament, winning the second seed.

The Lady Demons basketball team was close to breaking a record this year for earning three straight NCAA tournament berths with three straight Southland Conference championships. The Lady Demons hoped to not only make the NCAA tournament, but to make prolong their stay past the first weekend of the conference.

Last season, NSU lost in a routing to Baylor University 77-36. The 2013-14 team lost to the Lady Volunteers of the University of Tennessee 70-46 after being tied at halftime. Needless to say, making it to the big dance would have been a great experience for a smaller school like NSU. However, beating a major program the first weekend, becoming a Cinderella team, and chasing a national championship is every players dream.

During the same time, the Demon men's team concluded a tough season. NSU finished their season Saturday night against the University of New Orleans in a losing effort 86-97. The team is hoping to reclaim Jalan West, a senior guard, back for a coveted sixth year of eligibility after an early season ACL tear.

With the possibility of West coming back paired with returning players, such as nationally ranked scorer Zeek Woodley, the next season is looking bright. The emergence of freshman big man Ishmael Lane is also a success for the team this year. Lane gives the hoop-squad instant credibility down low after an incredible rookie season, averaging almost a double-double for the season. With this years campaign in the rear-view mirror, there is a lot to look forward to. The three-headed monster of West, Woodley and Lane gives the Demons a force to be reckoned with going into next season.

Racism, violence and hatred

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

I'm a conservative Republican. Yes, you read that correctly. However, I strongly oppose Donald Trump and almost everything that he stands for.

Today, conservative Republicans are viewed as gun-wielding, Bald Eagle riding nimrods, but we are people too. We just have a different opinion and we are often judged for it based on these stereotypes alone.

However, I am not a gun-wielding, Bald Eagle riding nimrod; I am a gay, nail painting, intellectual college student. Not everyone fits into the conservative Republican stereotype.

It's a lot easier for me to just tell people that I am conservative Republican than to tell them that I am actually an American Conservative. American conservatism holds liberty as a core value, with a particular emphasis on strengthening the free market and opposing high taxes and government or labor union encroachment on the entrepreneur.

As a history minor, I have looked through history books and honestly believe that the government in the 1800s was run better than the government that we have today. I firmly agree with the way that the country was run back in those times and believe that we should've kept those ideals.

That being said, when Trump was selected as our Republican nominee in Louisiana I was shocked. I didn't think that the state would agree with him and all of his ridiculous ways. But, alas, I was wrong. I personally didn't vote in the closed primaries, because I didn't agree with anyone whole-heartedly.

On Trump's website, he has all of his ridiculous platforms perfectly laid out, one of those being his platform about immigration. His main idea is to build a wall across the American-Mexican boarder, paid for by Mexico. When I read this, I was reminded of something similar in recent history: The Berlin Wall.

Just like Hitler, Trump wants to build a wall around the southern boarder to separate the two countries. This ideal is completely off-the-wall and ridiculous. If you look back into history, you can see how The Berlin Wall worked for Germany, which obviously wasn't well.

Trump also wants to change the Constitution with his immigration reform policy. The 14th Amendment states that any child who is born from an illegal immigrant on American soil becomes an American citizen. Trump wants to change this and take away these children's citizenship.

This amendment has been in place since July 28, 1868. However, his website doesn't include any information on what he would do in place of it or how he would act upon this. He has no solid argument about this, just like all of the other outlandish ideals he has propagated.

Trump being selected for the Republican nominee in Louisiana just goes to prove that the ideals of the state haven't changed all that much since the times of slavery. What does this say about not only our state but also our country as a whole? I'm not saying that you shouldn't vote for him; Live your life how you want to.

If Trump gets elected, however, just be aware that he's going to run this country on the ideals of violence, racism and hatred. Take a lesson from history and from a nonconformist like myself, think twice about what this decision will mean for the future of this country



Can a furry friend help you out?

KIMBERLY MOSIER
Staff Writer

If you think you are too young to have a heart attack, you're wrong. Once people hit voting age, their chances of heart disease sky rockets. The key to controlling your chances is rooted in good health habits, and someone who can help instill these good habits happens to rest on four legs.

Cardiovascular disease, CVD, is the leading cause of death in the U.S. Within the past year around 10 percent of all heart attacks occurred in people below the age of 45, according to CardioSmart.

Factors that increase one's chance of CVD are smoking, obesity, poor physical activity, poor diet, lack of sleep and heavy amounts of stress, according to World Heart Federation.

By age 95, a person who is free of these factors has a remarkably low five percent risk of developing cardiovascular along with an additional 11 more expected years of life. In contrast, the risk for a person with two or more factors is 69 percent.

Now, think of one college student you know that does not have at least one or two of these qualities. They are a rarity.

Pet ownership among young adults is "an important nonhuman form of social support that can provide cardio-protective benefits" because it instills good habits early in life, according to American Heart Association, AHA.

Continued on currentsauce-news.com

The rise of the fourth reich?

Trump's nationalist rhetoric is the real threat to our society

JAMES WADE
Contributing Writer

People are voting en masse to nominate Donald Trump as the Republican candidate for President of the United States. Not everyone is well-versed on the dangers of nationalism and how nationalism can, and often does, lead to troubled authoritarian states. This lesson could be a critical one to learn before casting a vote for Trump.

Nationalism is defined as having strong patriotic stances that promote a belief that one's own nation is superior to others. What I am attempting to convey may sound controversial, but it is necessary to understand the implications of nationalistic attitudes and the damage they pose to society.

After Sept. 11, 2001, the nation rallied together under President George W. Bush to confront a new enemy: global terrorism. He made the case that the U.S. needed to go to war in order to prevent further attacks on our nation. Bipartisan unity from Republicans and Democrats brought us into Afghanistan and later Iraq under the premise of protecting American sovereignty.

This is one fundamental aspect of nationalism that is sometimes ignored: Nationalist demagogues use their rhetoric to unite people against a supposed common enemy, President Bush, because of the argument for security, was able to pass the Patriot Act, which enabled the government to bypass some of the constitutional rights of Americans if they were suspected of "terrorist activity." Only a few members of Congress opposed this measure. Because of its support we now have concerns about the National Security Agency spying on American citizens and collecting private mobile data.

"I suggest you vote for someone who can unite us in bettering our society through easier access to education, improved infrastructure and broader racial and ideological understanding of others."

Now back to Mr. Trump. In his campaign speeches, he rails against "illegal immigrants." Mexicans in general and Muslims, without regard to their nation of origin or their individual beliefs about the interpretation of the Quran.

He shouts, "Make America great again!" But this is the same type of rhetoric that historically leads to wars and the end of personal freedoms in the name of security. His words are not only dangerous in regard to where they might take us, but also in regard to how his followers are responding during his rallies, people are often forcibly removed. Recently in Louisville, Ky., a black woman -- Shiya Nwanguma --was shoved around by white members of the rally and called a "c**t" and a "n****r."

With Donald Trump, we have an even bigger issue concerning nationalism than in recent years. Instead of galvanizing people to fight against a common enemy overseas, he is uniting people against their perceived enemies here in the U.S.

This is reminiscent of what occurred in Nazi Germany, as Adolf Hitler preached his message of hate against the Jews and blamed them for the nation's problems. The only difference that I can see is that Mr. Trump has no singular or well-defined enemy he is speaking against. Instead, and in fact, much worse, he has ignited a fire of hatred in the hearts of certain Americans that seek to consume anyone who is different from the white, cisgender, heterosexual or Christian majorities.

If you are serious about protecting the future of the U.S., then I suggest you vote for someone who can unite us in bettering our society through easier access to education, improved infrastructure and broader racial and ideological understanding of others. Otherwise, we may soon find ourselves in the midst of a great conflict. Except this time it will not be in Afghanistan and Iraq.

No, this time it will be at our very own doorstep with our very own fellow Americans. Take nationalism and hate speech seriously, because if you don't there is a good chance that you may wake up one day in a world of conflict that you enabled through your vote or inaction.

Phi Kappa Phi at Northwestern State University would like to honor the Fall 2015 Initiates. Congratulations to the following for achieving this special academic honor reserved for a small percent of the student population who demonstrated excellence in the classroom:

College of Arts and Sciences

Lauren Anderson
Marilyn Anderson
Blake Babin
Julia Barry
Audrey Carter
Mary Corley
Cara Crawford
Ashleigh Daniels
Paula DeJean
Maddaline Dempsey
Lesley Dykes
Natasha Edwards
James Huss
Jennifer Keaton
Amber Lamers
Eric Lopez
Leah Middlebrook
Kimberly Mosier
Emily Myers
Sarah Odom
Raley Pellittieri
Amy Poole
Danielle Tyrney
Michael Williams
Morgan Wisby
Ashley Wolf
Caren Wood
Chad Worthy

Gallaspy College of Education & Human Development

Kayla Ashford
Frances Attenhofer
Christy Aymami
Angela Beecher
Laine Blazevich
Rebekah Broussard
Ann Brown
Jocelyn Cummons
Shakia Davis
Theresa Felton
Gabrielle Gonzales
Rosalie Griffin
Carolyn Hale
Marie Hebert
Caitlin James
Daniel James
Micalee Jeansonne
Megan Jenkins
Carol Kelly
Annemarie Lamitina
Rosalind Lowe
Connie Miller
Alison Mitchell
Jordan Morris
Rachel Reischling
Weston Scholten
Danna Spires
Danielle Veuleman
Jordan White
Mercedes Wiles

Louisiana Scholars' College

Amber Babin
Amanda Boudreaux
Danyelle Coco
Crystal Dunning
Jessica Fletschinger
Kirsten Fontenot
Taylor Freeman
Sarah Gandy
Margaret Hochstedler
Natalie Jaeger
Caleb Killer
James Lake
Conn Mccandlish
Chelsea Thibodeaux
Michael Thrower
Savanna Whitten
Bria Williams

College of Nursing & School of Allied Health

Brittany Amerson
Dylan Carter
Adria Champagne
Nicholas Clay
Savanna Eaves
Julie Gayle
Jacqueline Judice
Jessica Love
Chelsey McBroom
Carolyne Redding
Patricia Strickland
Isabella Vazquez
Logan Webb
Kelsey Whitfield

College of Business & Technology

Ezar Bess
Jake Cazenave
Meghan Cross
James Curtis
Katherine Danna
Qyxiaan Elliott
Tommie Espy
Kaycie Fontenot
Linda Gamo Gougue
Anna Gould
Kari Graham
Emilie King
Natalya Krutova
Meisha Landry
Leon Latino
Kaitlin Lewing
Temberlee Mallet
Kaylyn Martin
Austin McCurry
Jennifer Morgan
Sarah O'Neill Nelson
Lincoln Pearce
Amber Raggio
Randall Roberson
Anna Rogers
Christian Smith
Rebekah Taylor
Reid Van Bussum
Cody Wager
Tyler Zieske

Faculty

Dr. Ali Ahmad
Dr. James Henderson
Dr. Terrie Poehl

Phi kappa Phi membership is earned. Admission is by invitation only and requires nomination approval by a chapter. Requirements include:

- Undergraduate students must have completed at least 24 semester hours or their institution's equivalent.
- Juniors must have completed at least 72 credit hours, with at least 24 semester hours at their current institution, and rank in the top 7.5 percent of their class.
- Seniors must have completed at least 24 semester hours at their current institution and rank in the top 10 percent of their class.
- Graduate students must have completed at least 18 graduate hours and rank in the top 10 percent of their class. Faculty, professional staff and alumni who achieve scholarly distinction may also be eligible.

Look for the Spring 2016 invitations to join PKP coming soon!

THE CURRENTSAUCE
Wednesday, March 23, 2016
Volume: 101 Issue: 22

SGA president and vice president elected after running unopposed
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Brussels bombed days after arrest of Paris attack culprit
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‘It’s on Us’

Students fight to end campus sexual assault

“The more I talk about what happened to me, the less it hurts”

-Kiely Weatherford



Members of Demons Support Demons worked the tabling event where students could sign a pledge to “create an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.”

Photos by Hannah Richardson

MEG DENNY
News Editor

Kiely Weatherford had just begun her first year in college when it happened. After experiencing sexual assault, life as she knew it slowly fell apart.

Her grades spiraled, she lost connection with her friend group and she soon dropped out, embarking on a search for a new scene and a new life that led her from California to Utah to Louisiana.

“I felt like I was suffocating, like I had to get out,” Weatherford said.

Years later, Weatherford is now a 25-year-old full-time student, wife and mother who describes herself as busy, grateful and loving life. Now, as president of Demons Support Demons, Weatherford stresses the need for a supportive environment to surround survivors with the help they need.

“If I can have the opportunity to help a survivor find the easier path to getting their lives back together again, then it’s something I want to get involved in,” the psychology and child development major said.

Demons Support Demons grew out of a student project at NSU last semester with the goal of raising awareness about sexual assault and bringing prevention techniques to students.

Throughout the week of March 21, the organization formed bonds with other organizations, like the Brainy Acts Poetry Society and Students With a Target, to create a “week of action” tied to the national awareness campaign “It’s On Us.”

The week involved a tabling event where students signed a pledge to end sexual assault on campus. Also, an open mic night took place to empower survivors to share their stories in an accepting atmosphere.

DSD will continue their educational work next semester through the formation of multiple committees, including a “men mentoring men” group and a “healthy relationship” group. The “It’s On Us” week of action will continue as well.

Weatherford lives her life as an example for other assault survivors to follow and hopes to enable this same recovery for all victims of sexual assault through her work with “It’s on Us.” Weatherford is the head of the survivor support committee, which aims to recruit a community of students helping other students regain their lives after experiencing sexual assault.

Weatherford recognizes that it is up to the students, not just administrators, to change the attitudes on campus regarding sexual assault awareness.

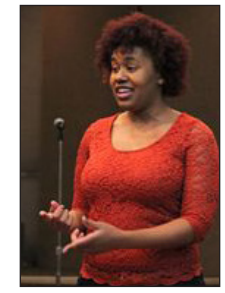
In fact, Weatherford believes that her role in promoting a consent culture on campus has helped reduce the degree of emotional isolation felt by local survivors.

“It’s really therapeutic for me to talk to other people and share my story,” Weatherford said. “The more I talk about what happened to me, the less it hurts.”

Now, with a two-year-old daughter, a husband, an education and a part-time job at the Child Development Center, Weatherford feels complete and confident in her work with sexual assault survivors.

“I’m living my dream, really,” Weatherford said. “As busy and hectic as it can be, I’m living my dream life.”





Left: At the open mic event titled “Unbreakable,” students were encouraged to share their stories and support through poetry. DSD advisor Lori LeBlanc (top) thanked the audience for participating in a meaningful cause. Dee Atkins (left), president of BAPS, performed numerous poems and emphasized to the audience that survivors of sexual assault are not alone; they have the support of the NSU community to help them.

Left: Junior Morgan Lasyone, a hospitality management tourism majowr, signs the pledge board which was set up in the union.



Annual President's Command Performance honors alumni

BRIA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The table was set with hundreds of grapes and plates full of cheeses and crackers. It was a Friday afternoon, so crawfish pies were provided for those unable to eat meat during Lent. The President's command performance was not only about food, though.

Faculty, students and members of the Natchitoches community came together to celebrate the induction of notable NSU alumni into the Creative and Performing Arts hall of fame: Mrs. Lenn Prince, Dr. Jerry Payne and Dr. Colleen Lancaster.

The third annual spring gala is the signature fundraising event for the NSU Foundation; it provides scholarships, professorships and programming for the university.

"All the money goes back to NSU," Tiffany Chasteen, assistant director of alumni development, said. "We put it together, and CAPA provides all of the entertainment."

The NSU Jazz Orchestra, Dance Company and 2016 Wind Symphony provided the entertainment for the night between speakers and inductions. The CAPA department created an entirely new show to perform, although pieces from older shows were included.

"We tailored the performances specifically to the people being inducted," Dr. Jeffrey Matthews, director of bands, said. "One of the inductees was a vocal major, so we highlighted the vocal department."

Mrs. Lenn Prince graduated from NSU in 1975 with a degree in vocal performance education. She is a native of Opelousas, a former member of the NSU Chorale and the 1974 Miss Lady of the Bracelet. She has traveled the world singing in various choruses and has been active in the NSU Foundation after graduation.

Dr. Jerry Payne earned a bachelor's, a master's and a doctoral degree from NSU in music education. Dr. Payne served as director of bands for four years, and was a charter member for the Beta Omicron Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha. He is a member of the NSU Band directors' Hall of Fame, the Louisiana Music Educators Hall of Fame, the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame and NSU's Hall for Distinguished Educators.

The third inductee, Dr. Colleen Lancaster, earned a degree in physical education from Northwestern State. Dr. Lancaster was a teacher and administrator for more than 30 years in NSU's physical education program, where she helped to establish the accreditation for the Department of Dance. She directed NSU's Christmas dance concert, which is now known as the Christmas gala. She is a nationally recognized dance educator.

Dr. Greg Handel and Dr. Jeff Mathews hosted the event, which will be held semi-annually from now on.

At the end of the night, there was hardly any meat pies left, but one student was able to walk home with an entire bundle of grapes.



New inductees into NSU Long Purple Line

Five new graduates now have their portraits added into the Long Purple Line. These alumni have achieved success across the nation and the world and were inducted Friday March 18. The Line has been used to honor outstanding former students into its Hall of Distinction. Since 1990, 115 alumni have been honored with induction into the Long Purple Line.

Mrs. Brenda Webb and Tamara Gatewood accepted on behalf of former President Dr. Randall J. Webb, the longest-serving president in the history of NSU.

Greg Ashlock graduted from the journalism program and is now executive vice president of operations for iHeartMedia and president of iHeartMedia Southern California, located in Los Angeles. He is a part of the top radio market in the nation, managing eight radio stations with 500 employees.

Glenn Talbert was a running back who helped the Demons win the 1962 Gulf States Conference championship. He is now a State Farm agent in Shreveport and supports NSU faithfully.

Foster Campbell is a third-term member of the Louisiana Public Commission and is an advisor to Gov. John Bel Edwards.

Dr. James Larry Holly is a family doctor in Beaumont, Texas, and is affiliated with Dubuis Hospital. He has been in practice over 20 years after receiving his medical degree from University of Texas Medical School.

Newly elected SGA president and VP plan for change

JOSHUA FONTENOT
Staff Writer

NSU's Student Government Association recently appointed a new president and vice president for the 2016-2017 semester. Senior John Pearce will act as the new president and junior Tre Nelson will be serve as his vice president.

The two received their newly appointed titles, which are awarded the highest paying scholarships on campus, after running unopposed in the SGA election.

"I think it's a little strange that they won unopposed," senior Lauren Bell said. "I didn't even know there was an election."

But the two actually had competition before the competitor dropped out of the race three weeks prior to voting.

"Tre and I are both extremely competitive," stated Pearce. "We were looking forward to competing in this election."

Although some students claim ignorance about the actual election, student messenger displayed the announcement.

Next year, the duo has big plans in mind for what they would like to accomplish as leaders of SGA.

"I want to instill the pride I feel for NSU in other students," Pearce said. "I want students to feel like they can depend on student government to make things happen."

Nelson is on board with Pearce's plans for the upcoming semester, and is ready to enact plans of his own.

"As John said, I want students to be able to say that SGA has helped them facilitate their ideas," explained Nelson. "I'd also like to focus on the beautification of NSU."

Some students, however, lack confidence in SGA because they are unsure of its role on campus.

"Honestly, I'm not even sure what SGA even does," stated senior Cameron Campbell.

Pearce and Nelson plan to remedy this problem so that students can have a better understanding not only of student government, but of what it can do for them.

To help fix this, they plan to carefully select an external affairs commissioner, who will play a huge role in getting the word out about SGA and its events.

The two also urge students who have questions and concerns to attend one of SGA's meetings that occur every Monday at 6 p.m. in the Cane River Room of the union.

"One large push that is already being made is informing students we have an SGA, and it's there to help," Nelson said. "You may have seen this on the Facebook Student Concerns Page."

As the semester winds down, the two will soon be inaugurated and begin to take on the responsibilities of their positions.

"At the end of my presidency, I want to be able to go out and see results,"stressed Pearce. "I want to be a person that says they will do something and sticks to their word."

Brussels bombed days after arrest of Paris attack culprit

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor



Brussels will soon begin the slow process of rebuilding after the recent bombings that shook the city on the morning of March 22. *Photo from Creative Commons*

Since October, ISIS has claimed the lives of over 364 people and has wounded over 1,185. The terrorist group has claimed responsibility for the recent attacks in Paris, Turkey and Brussels and the attacks are becoming more frequent and deadly.

These strings of bombings started in October. In the Turkish capital of Ankara, a double suicide bombing at a Kurdish peace rally killed 128 people. The rally was meant to promote labor, peace and democracy, but ISIS made it anything but peaceful.

On November 13, 2015, a series of terrorist attacks occurred across the city of Paris, France. Attacks included bombings and mass shootings at cafes, restaurants and a music venue in central Paris. The violent acts killed more than 130 people, making this the most deadly killing since World War II. The culprit was discovered to be Salah Abdeslam, a 26-year-old French citizen and known ISIS member.

Jean-Charles Brisard, French terrorist expert, said in a CNN article that 600 French citizens "are believed to be fighting alongside terrorist organizations abroad, and 250 are believed to have returned to France."

After the bombing in October, Ankara started to heal from the catastrophe. In spite of the city being peaceful for almost four months, another bomb tore through the city on Feb. 17, this time targeting Turkish military buses. The bomb killed 29 people and wounded 61. ISIS claimed responsibility for this attack as well.

On March 11, the U.S. Embassy in Turkey issued security warnings about a potential attack on Turkish government buildings. However, unbeknownst to Turkey, the carnage caused by ISIS was far from over and came sooner than they expected.

With Turkey already on high alert from the bombing three weeks earlier, another car bomb burst through Ankara once again on Sunday, March 13. This time, the bomb killed 37 people and wounded 125, leaving 19 seriously injured. Two of the three bombers are suspected to be among the 37 deceased.

ISIS's next target was Brussels. On March 22 at around 8 a.m., bombs exploded in the Belgian city. Two exploded at the Brussels Airport, just outside of the departures hall, killing 10 people. About an hour later, another bomb exploded inside the city's train station, killing 30 people and wounding 230 others. Another bomb was left at the airport; however, it did not detonate.

A man in light-colored clothing, wearing a hat and pushing a baggage cart through the airport just minutes before the bomb went off is suspected to be the only suspect still alive. Of the three bombers, two are suspected to have been killed in the blasts, the third making it out safely.

A taxi driver is the Belgian police's main source of information. After the bombings, and an official release about the suspects, a taxi driver came forward stating that he drove the men to the airport earlier in the day. The police have yet to release any additional information about the taxi driver.

On Friday, March 18, Abdeslam was detained after a police raid in Brussels. He was found hiding underground inside the capital for 124 days, with a network of sympathizers helping him hide in safe places around the city. Abdeslam's arrest seems to be the motivation behind the Brussels attacks.

President Obama, who is currently in Havana, Cuba, has come forward stating that the U.S. will support the Belgian government in any way that it can.

With these recent attacks, the people of Brussels begin the process of recovery. Belgium has declared a national state of mourning for the next three days. The nation will continue to heal, and rebuild what is left after this disaster.

SGA minutes

Monday, March 21

•The members for the clubs sports committee were approved. The committee will function similarly to the Orgazational Relief Fund. It will legitimize new club sports and approve finincial aid for activities.

•A bill was passed to keep the HHP lab open for students from 8 a.m. on Mondays to 12 p.m. on Fridays.

•SGA discussed deleting the Student Concerns Facebook page, but future SGA president John Pearce affirmed that Dr. Henderson wants the page to remain.

Conversational Sign Language Workshop

A conversational sign language class is currenlty underway in the student union. During the seven session class, students are learning pigeon sign language, which is an alternative to American Sign Language, ASL.

The class is taught every Monday evening at 6 p.m., is open to everyone and taught by Greg Downs.

Students from the class request that readers be aware of language that may victimize the deaf community as being somewhat impaired, when they often feel that they are able to function using their forms of communication just as effectively.

The following updates have also been made:

• The class has moved to Room 320 in the union.

• An all-encompassing sign language RSO is in the works.

The following is a correction from the previous issue:

• Greg Twowns is a certified ASL interpreter, not an art professor.

Students reflect on intern experience

KIMBERLY MOSIER
Staff Writer

Want an internship? Well, some students do not have a choice. Some majors, like nursing, social work, and psychology, strongly recommend if not require their students to take an internship as a way to experience their future jobs.

Lex Hamilton, a senior psychology major, said she's currently working an internship at a local clinic. She said it has been a "great" experience for her to counsel several clients and understand how her major's teaching fit into an actual profession.

"I've had the chance to really get my feet into the door and learn how it is out in the field," Hamilton said.

Senior liberal arts major with a concentration in scientific inquiry Rose Tusa said her past internship at the LSU School of Veterinary Medicine was a great way to observe how to professionally conduct their work. Even though she wants to become a nurse and not a vet, she said the work was very similar to what she hopes to do in the future.

"It helped me understand questions that could appear on the Medical College Admission Test (MCAT)," Tusa said. "Also graduate schools like to see research internships on applications."

The research Tusa preformed in her lab was a treatment for breast cancer.

The experiences Tusa and Hamilton had at their internship are what researchers at Carrer.com would consider "positive." They said most internships are said to turn into "amazing" experiences even when they do not appear as something the student initially expected.

Penny Lorretto, internship expert at Carrer.com, said the key to upholding an internship to its utmost value is to "make it work out." The mentality an intern projects onto the internship will be what determines what he or she will gain from the experience.

Lorretto said students who make the most of their time generally receive something from even the worst internships. However, if a student is caught in a "not-so-great" internship, once it is over, the student should conduct a thorough review of the job and give it to his or her adviser.

Heather Poirrier, a junior social work major, said that waiting for her internship assignment for next fall has been a "nerve-wracking ordeal."

"It will be my first time working a job in my field, and I will be spending four days a week at my internship all day," Poirrier said. "I am a bit anxious, but I am confident my professors have prepared me for the experience."

The National Association of Colleges and Employers conducted an Internship & Co-op Survey. This survey took place from Dec. 3, 2014 through Jan. 30, 2015. The regional breakdown of the survey was as follows:

- *25.7 percent of respondents were from the Northeast U.S.*
- *24.1 percent of respondents were from the Southeast*
- *34.0 percent of respondents were from the Midwest*
- *15.4 percent of respondents were from the West*
- *0.8 percent of respondents were from outside of the U.S.*

Through the survey NACE found the following:

- *92 percent of respondents had a formal internship program*
- *70.8 percent of respondents said the primary goal of their internship was to move students from intern positions to full-time positions*
- *In 2014 intern hiring decreased by 3.4 percent and remained unchanged in 2015*
- *Intern conversion rate in 2015 was 51.7 percent*

According to CNN, internships provide the following to students:

- *The opportunity to "test drive" a career*
- *Chances to network*
- *Establishing relationships with mentors*
- *Possible college credit or certification*
- *An introduction to the field's culture and etiquette*
- *Accumulating new skills*
- *Gaining a "real world" perspective in an occupation*



Saving money the college way

Fast food or home-cooked meals? Home-brewed coffee or the coffee shop? Tips from students and Buzzfeed on how to reduce spending while in college. Information was gathered by An-gel Samuel, a Current Sauce staff writer.

1. *Instead of buying fast food, buy actual groceries for your home.* Eating fast food everyday will cost students at least $250. On the other hand groceries will cost students at least $120 a month, assuming they stay away from high-priced meat and non-necessities.

2. *Team up with friends to make dinner cheaper and more appetizing.* Have each person cook a meal that week so you only spend money once a week while being able to enjoy "home-cooked" meals. This is actually cheaper than buying fast food three times a day every day, according to a Buzzfeed article.

3. *Don't shop while hungry.* This will keep you from buying the whole store and will definitely save you money. It's called "smart shopping" because you aren't impulsively buying and are able to focus on the items that are necessities, according to a Buzzfeed article. Always bring a list and stick to it so you won't over-buy.

4. *The dollar store can be a cheaper alternative to Walmart for dorm room essentials.* Things like laundry baskets or shelf décor cost around $1-$5 as opposed to $10-$15 at Walmart.

5. *Don't buy designer coffee.* Buying lattes, cappuccinos or any type of coffee can run between $2.50 to $3.50 or higher depending on the size, according to College Scholarships. Seven days of this routine can cost $17.50 per week and roughly $70 per month. A better alternative is to make your own every day or buy teabags at the grocery store and bring them to coffee shops and using their hot water.

6. *Take advantage of the school events that offer free food or free shirts.* Free food and free shirts is their way of getting students to come out and support whatever they are hosting or promoting, so why not take advantage. This can stop you from spending unneccessary money on fast food, clothes or snacks.

7. *Treat yourself.* Senior Zhaquan Porter, a psychology and addiction studies major, treats himself once a month to avoid overspending on frivoulous needs in times of stress.

8. *Be conscious about spending.* Freshman Jessica Watkins always questions whether she really needs something: "If I have to second guess it, then I won't buy."

‘Barred out’

Using stimulants to help reach deadlines, socialize with peers and partake in self-care has caused Benzodiazepine use among students to rise

SAVANNAH BASSETT
Staff Writer

Everyday stresses can sometimes seem like too much to handle. College students, especially, face an immense amount of stress. Between deadlines, homework, socializing and making time for just themselves, it can all get hectic.

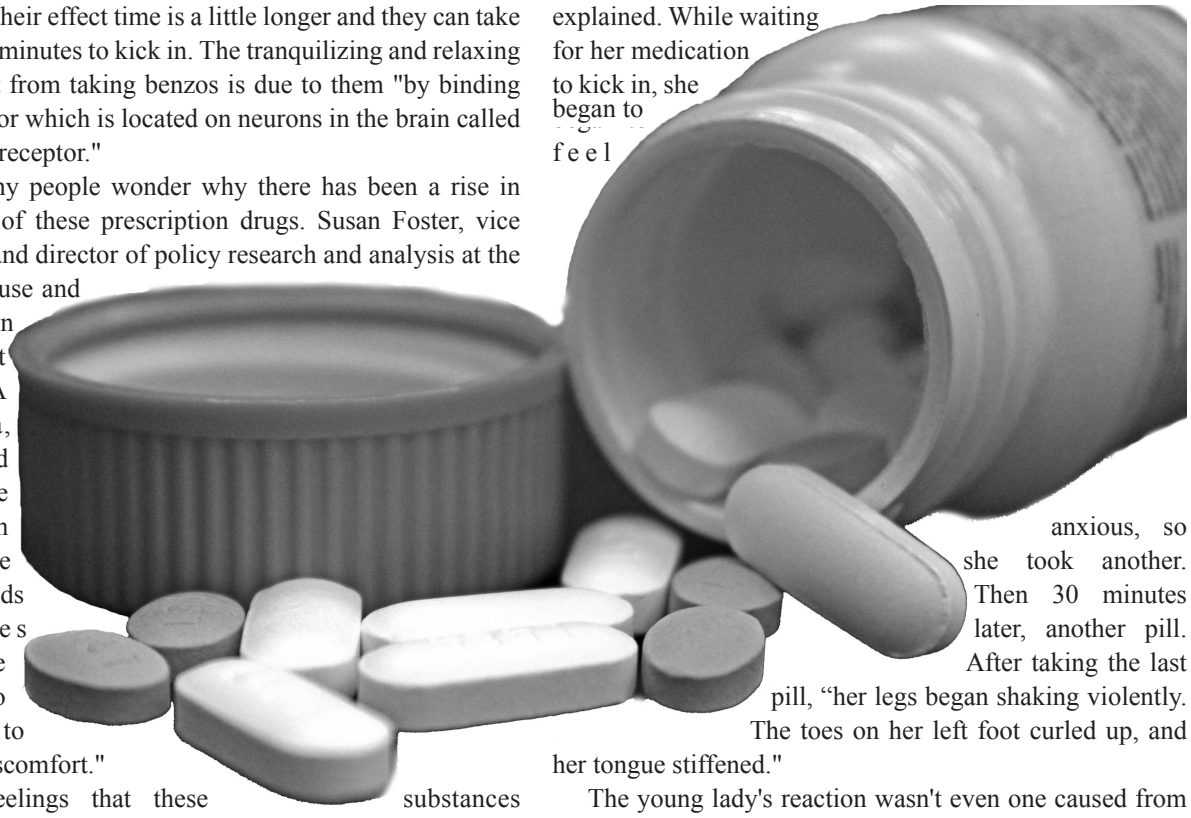
According to Fox News, "Statistics on teenagers abusing stimulant drugs to get ahead in school abound, but a new study suggests another rising problem among this age group: the abuse of sleep and anti-anxiety medications." The main group being abused are Benzodiazepines (Benzos for short). Drugs such as Xanax, Valium, Ativan and Klonopin. Due to their tranquilizer qualities, they induce feelings similar to being intoxicated and, when mixed with other substances, that sensation can be heightened.

However, alongside the abuse of Benzos, Ambien, a very underestimated drug, has become popular due to its euphoric and hallucinogenic effects. On the streets, it can be referred to as "A-minus, Zombie pills or Tic-Tacs." Insomnia often accompanies anxiety, so prescribing sleep aids do occur.

Most of the time Xanax and other Benzos are prescribed as a short-term treatment for anxiety disorders. What differentiates Benzos from other anti-anxiety medications is that the effects to do not take as long to kick in. For example, "... Xanax, you typically feel the effects within 15 to 20 minutes of taking it, and they wear off within six hours," claims Jennifer A. Reinhold, assistant professor of clinical pharmacy at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy.

Klonopin and Valium are similar in the way that they work, but their effect time is a little longer and they can take around 60 minutes to kick in. The tranquilizing and relaxing effects felt from taking benzos is due to them "by binding to a receptor which is located on neurons in the brain called the Gabor receptor."

So many people wonder why there has been a rise in the abuse of these prescription drugs. Susan Foster, vice president and director of policy research and analysis at the substance use and addiction nonprofit CASA Columbia, stated that "[t]he culture in which we live sends messages that there is no reason to tolerate discomfort."



The feelings that these substances cause may be fun at first, but there can also be deadly consequences when using them. Even individuals who were not using them for recreational use but for prescribed reasons can become physically addicted to the pills. This makes it difficult to withdraw from using the medications.

Symptoms of withdrawal can include muscle twitches, severe anxiety and in some cases seizures. In one personal account, a 20-year-old college student had a severe "paradoxical reaction," a reaction that cannot really be explained. While waiting for her medication to kick in, she began to feel anxious, so she took another. Then 30 minutes later, another pill. After taking the last pill, “her legs began shaking violently. The toes on her left foot curled up, and her tongue stiffened."

The young lady's reaction wasn't even one caused from recreational use. If a normal user, taking a prescribed dose, can experience such a horrific reaction imagine what a recreational dose could do.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse posted a chart that illustrated the rise in benzo overdoses. In a span of four years, from 2010 to 2014, "there was a 5-fold increase in the total number of deaths." If the rate keeps climbing without any change in awareness, the next four years could see an even more drastic increase.

Students give professors false excuses ranging from ‘normal’ to tragic

JADE WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

It's that time of the school year again. Midterms have come and gone and finals are soon to come. With that approaching stress comes an influx of crazy excuses as to why assignments have not been turned in or why students are unable to attend class.

When asked about the strangest excuses he has received, Professor of Music Dr. Douglas Bakenhus replied that many students choose stomach pains as their go-to excuse.

"The strangest excuse I received was a student who told me he couldn't come to class because he had trouble defecating," Bakenhus said. "He supposedly went to a doctor, but never brought me a medical excuse [...] I had three different students in three different classes tell me they missed class because of 'food poisoning.' I now no longer accept 'food poisoning' as an excuse."

Other times, students are caught in a lie through a series of unfortunate events, as in one instance in Professor of Biological Science Dr. Ellis Antoon's time teaching at Northwestern State University.

> *“The strangest excuse I received was a student who told me he couldn’t come to class because he had trouble defecating.”* - Dr. Douglas Bakenhus

A professor received an email from a student who claimed he was unable to turn in his paper due to the sudden death of his grandmother, Antoon said. A student in the class suggested that the class send flowers to the grandmother's home in order to show their condolences.

"The florist knew the family and gave our professor their phone number to ensure that they had gotten the plant," Antoon said. "The next day, the professor told the class that the grandmother had answered the phone."

It seems that sometimes, students go to extreme measures in order to have extra time with their assignments or extra time in between classes. So why are students so often driven to this low point of lying -- albeit creatively -- about their personal lives in order to keep up in school?

Junior music education major Logan Ashley was honest about the reason behind his struggle to keep up with assignments.

"I have a huge procrastination problem," Ashley said. "I've been doing it for so long that I believe it's engraved into my being."

Senior English major Amber Anderson, however, believes that the problem is a result of poor scheduling on the part of professors.

"I've only had assignments late because everything is due at the end of the semester, which is very overwhelming," Anderson said.

One student is unsure if professors who assign a large workload fully understand that students have additional responsibilities besides that one class.

Junior biology major Jasmine Poe said, "How do we explain to instructors that we have a billion other things to keep up with outside of the classroom, like jobs and our social lives?"



"My Metaphysical" is the senior art exhibit by Marie Robichaux featured in the small second gallery in the second floor of the New CAPA building. Her pieces include a series of landscapes as large acrylic paintings and small ink drawings.

Robichaux's larger works were more eye catching during the art exhibit but her smaller more detailed pieces were just as impressive. Even though her ink drawings do not compare in size to her much larger acrylic paintings, but step closer and her ink drawings still catch the eye and pull the viewer into a much more serine place void of color.

The show will be available to view from March 21-25 and the reception took place March 22 at 7 p.m.

Photos by Bonny Bacoccini

Fuller House

HANNAH RICHARDSON
Staff Photographer

The 90's were definitely iconic, unforgettable and filled with several feel-good television shows. One of the most popular sitcoms of the 1990s was a show called "Full House."

The premise of "Full House" is simple- widower Danny Tanner raises his 3 daughters, D.J., Stephanie, and Michelle, with the help of his brother-in-law Jesse and long-time best friend Joey in San Francisco.

If sappy and huggy shows are not your thing, then this sitcom is most likely not your cup of tea. It's of these young girls growing up and learning right from wrong. Along with lessons learned and hugging, it definitely had it's share of funny one-liners.

If you were a fan of the show back then, the announcement made last year of a sequel series, "Fuller House," that would stream directly to Netflix might have surprised you. We never thought we would visit the full house again, but here we are!

Prior to the release date, I only knew that the plot was centered around daughters D.J. and Stephanie, now grown up into adults and moving back into their family home. What I didn't know was that it was almost the exact same plot line: D.J., now a widowed single mother of three boys, is having difficulty raising her children on her own, so her sister, Stephanie and best friend from the original show, Kimmy, move in as well to give D.J. a hand. Sound familiar?

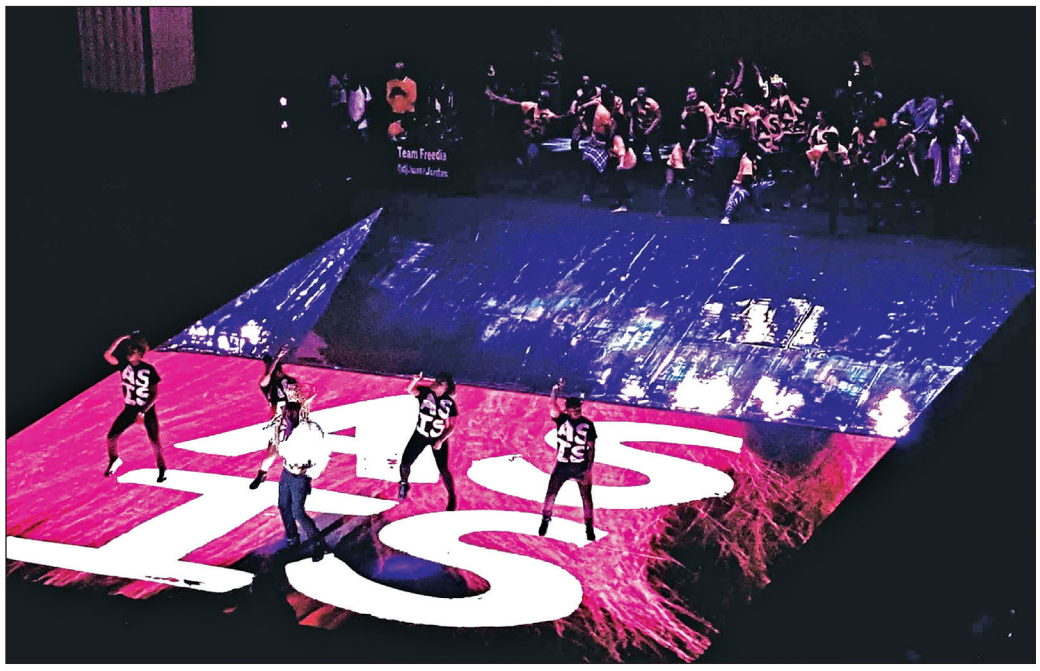
I thought it would be the same old with a sort of gender bent twist, but it was surprisingly very..... meta.The producers know that those who watched the show grew up a little and morphed the comedy of the show to fit the audience's new style of humor. There is still a feel-good family vibe in this series but it knows exactly what "Full House" was about, poking fun at how everyone has a hugging moment every five minutes.

The majority of the cast were all in for "Fuller House" and they've all aged really well (and boy, do they know it.) One main character missing however, the youngest daughter Michelle, played by the young Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen twins. These girls got their careers started on "Full House" and the cast throws major shade at them throughout the first season for not being there(discussing how Michelle was too busy to come visit because she has a fashion empire to run, then starting at the camera for a really long time).

Another character I didn't expect to see in this show was Steve, D.J.'s high school boyfriend. He's still basically the same, still raiding the Tanner's fridge because he's hungry for sandwiches... and for D.J.. A major plot line in Fuller House is that Steve is vying for D.J.'s affections but has competition from D.J.'s co-worker.

I don't want to give too much away because I want everyone to watch this show! It may have a similar plot to Full House, but it's nice to see how everyone has come into their own. All 13 episodes of season 1 can be found on Netflix and the producers of Fuller House recently announced that season 2 is in the works. Here's to hoping for more hilariously meta jokes and hoping maybe the Olsen twins return, but they have a fashion empire to run so it's unlikely.

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Performance artist Nick Cave's soundsuits attempt to hide identifying features, such as race and gender, in order for the audience to visually accept the performers "as is."

NSU Creative and Performing Arts students back-up dance for Big Freedia during the final performance of Nick Cave's "As Is," a five-part saga that attempts to bring communities together both through its making and througb its viewing.

Cave, an internationally renowned artist whose soundsuit pieces are collected by celebrities such as Beyonce and Jay-Z, involved members of the Shreveport and NSU communities in his perforamance at the Shreveport Municipal Memorial Auditorium. They were involved by making the props and performing the vocal and dance pieces.

Photos by Ashley Wolf

'As Is' challenges boundaries with gospel, art and twerking

The opening act featured Cave himself, during which he was gradually covered in blankets, made by members of the Shreveport community, while another performer recited a speech against oppressive lables and institutionalized prejudice.

The next scene showcased a gospel choir surrounded by dancers in Cave's colorful, psychodelic soundsuits on top of a lighted stage, which was in fact once used by Madonna.

After a series of abstract dance numbers complete with visual art and live music, NSU dancers let loose in a modern community ritual, group twerking, as the Sunday performance came to a close.



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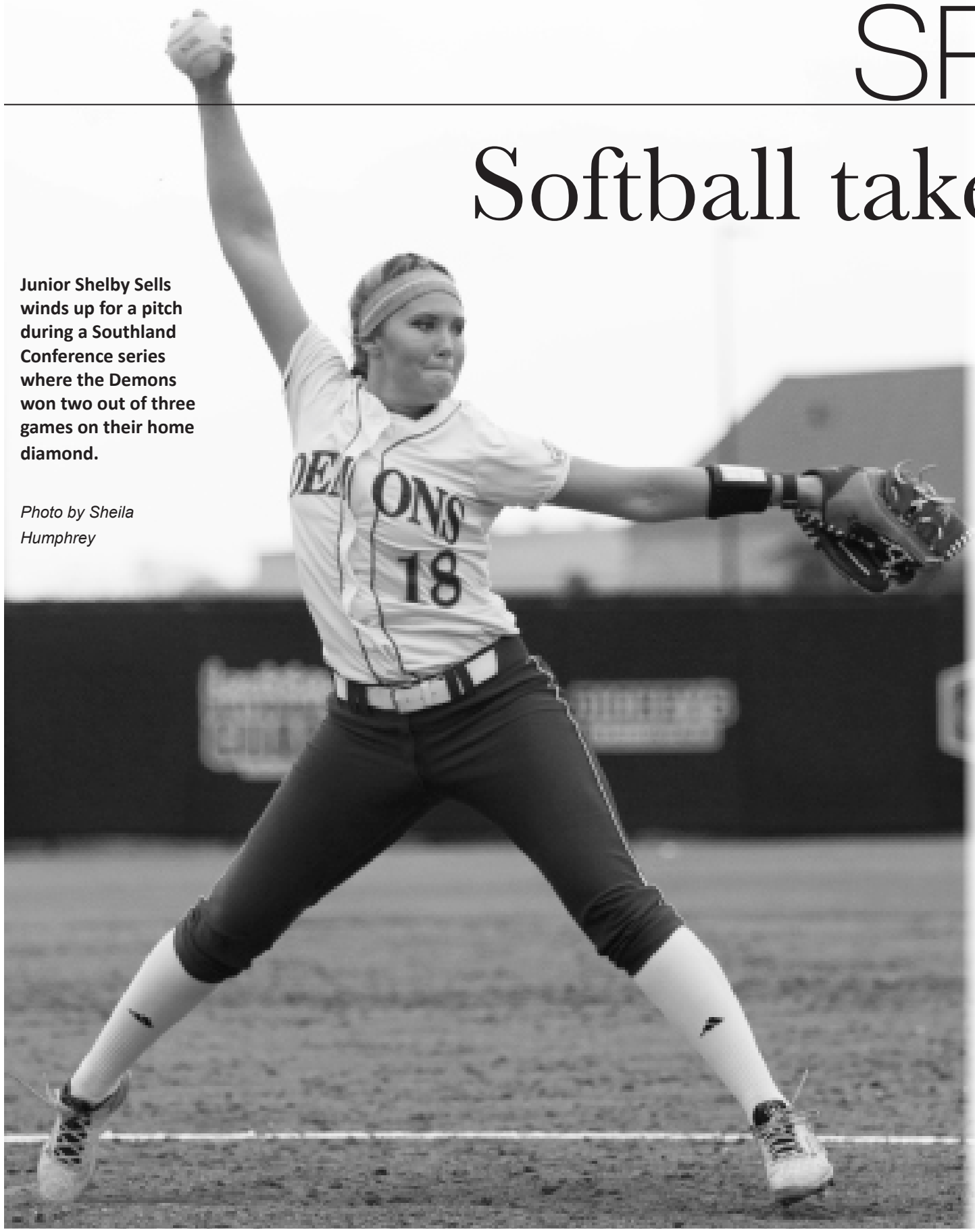
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Softball takes series



Junior Shelby Sells winds up for a pitch during a Southland Conference series where the Demons won two out of three games on their home diamond.

Photo by Sheila Humphrey

Lady Demons head to next challenge in conference play after making a comeback win in series

Two-week Schedule

Wed.3.23.16: *6 p.m. ULM*

Fri. 3.25.16: *3 & 5 p.m. Sam Houston (Southland)*

Sat. 3.26.16: *3 p.m. Sam Houston (Southland)*

Wed. 3.30.16: *6 p.m. L.A. Tech*

Fri. 4.1.16: *3 & 5 p.m. Lamar (Southland)* **HOME**

Sat. 4.2.16: *1 p.m. Lamar (Southland)* **HOME**

CASSIE BRISCOE
Copy Editor

The Lady Demon softball team took on Houston Baptist University this past weekend in a Southland Conference battle. The game was played on our home diamond, and NSU walked away with the series, winning two of the three games.

The team had a rough start, dropping the first game by a score of 10-6. They had to recuperate quickly after the game ended, however, as it was a double header. Fortunately, the Lady Demons came out on top in game number two, shutting out HBU by a score of 5-0.

Head Coach Donald Pickett believes a lapse of focus was the main issue in the first game. However, he is proud of the response by the team to get the second win while not giving up any runs.

"If we are going to be a consistent team, we are going to have to be consistent with our approaches and pitches every game," Pickett said.

Senior Natalie Landry was crucial in NSU's second-game win, as she hit two home runs. She gave a simple answer as to what the key is to her recent success.

"I knew my swing was there; the only thing I had to do was have fun," Landry said. "When I have fun that's when I play relaxed, and I know that's when my teammates can count on me the most."

Sophomore pitcher Micaela Bouvier recovered well from the first game. After having 10 runs put on the board, Bouvier shut-out HBU in the second game, allowing 0 runs and very few chances.

"I just had to flush it out — I couldn't do anything about it," Bouvier said. "But I had to come out the next game and do much better and really have my team's back."

Since both teams split a win the day before, Saturday was an important game. It was the deciding factor for which team would take the series.

By a score of 5-2, NSU triumphed. This victory gave the Lady Demons their first conference series win of the season. With a slow start in the first game, the team responded positively and took games two and three.

The win increased their overall record to 18-9, and their conference record to 3-3.

The Lady Demons will be back in Southland Conference action when they travel to Huntsville, Texas, for a match-up with Sam Houston State.

They will play a double header Friday and a single game on Saturday. After a slate of four games on the road, the Lady Demons will return to the home diamond April 1.

Baseball loses close series

JACOB HICKS
Sports Editor

The Demon baseball team traveled to Huntsville, Texas, last weekend to take on Sam Houston State University in a conference match-up, and the first game was nothing short of spectacular.

After loading the bases twice in game one of the triple-header and coming away empty handed, the Demons headed into the ninth inning down 5-0.

And then they won.

Daniel Gardner started off the inning with a single. This started a run of five straight Demon players making it on base. After Matt Valdez and Spencer Goodwin walked, Sam Houston State changed pitchers to right-handed closer, Spence Rahm. He was able to retire the next two on base before he hit disaster.

Bret Underwood hit a two-run single to make the game 5-4. Cort Brinson was walked, loading the bases once again, and then Daniel Garner won the game for the Demons. Garner drove a ball to deep right field that cleared the bases, finishing off the Demons' amazing comeback.

"In 22 years of coaching – and this isn't a hyperbole – I don't know that I've ever seen anything like that, posting a seven spot in the ninth," said Head Coach Lane Burroughs, who is in his fourth year of coaching the Demons.

"I told them I would be proud of them either way. I thought we absolutely crushed some balls tonight that didn't find holes. We had the bases loaded in the first and had them juiced [in the eighth]. Cort [Brinson] can't hit a ball harder than that, and their shortstop made a big-league play. You can't do anything about that."

Game two showed that no lead is safe. After a pitching battle between Demons left hander, Chase Hymel, and Bearkats right hander, Heath Donica, the game was scoreless through six innings. Brinson helped score the only run for the Demons, drilling his 40th career double into left field, while bringing home Underwood.

However, the Demons helped the Bearkats win the game, with a couple of errors in the eighth. The Kats had runners in the corner with one out, and Jeffery Stoval couldn't retire his next batters, allowing a double play and losing the game 2-1.

The third and final game played out much like the last game. The Demons watched a one-run lead disappear in the eighth inning under bizarre circumstances. Jaxxon Grisham scored on an unearned balk by pitcher Evan Tidwell, which is an illegal move by the pitcher.

Nathan Jones was then called for a balk, allowing the Bearkats to win the game 2-1, as well as the series. This is the first conference series that the Demons have lost.

The Demons start their rivalry series against Stephen F. Austin this weekend. They will play Thursday at 6:30 p.m., Friday at 6:30 p.m. and will close out Saturday at 2 p.m. All games will be played at Brown-Stroud field.



Senior Bret Underwood hit a two-run single in the first game, helping the Demons pull in a surprise win.
Photo by Gary Hardamon



Demons host Grambling to start four-game stretch



REGINALD WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

The Demon baseball team starts a four-games-in-four days stretch Wednesday as they get set to host visiting non-conference in-state rival Grambling State at 6 p.m.

The visiting Tigers come in with a 7-11 record and are looking to start the Demons four in four off with a loss. The Demons enter Wednesday night's match up 9-10 and are looking to gain some of the momentum they had at the start of the season back after going 1-2 in a three-game series against conference foe Sam Houston State in Huntsville this past weekend.

The Demons added the game versus the Tigers after losing two games earlier this season due to inclement weather.

"You want to play as much as you can; They're close by, and we have a close relationship with those guys up there. We called and they said they'd be more than willing to come play," said Demon Head Coach Lane Burroughs when talking about how the Demons and Tigers came together for their match up tonight. NSU's four in four will culminate with a three game series against arch conference rival Stephen F. Austin, who are coming at 11-11.

A win against the visiting Tigers could be just what the doctor ordered for the somewhat slumping Demons. Game time is slated for 6 p.m. at Brown-Stroud field with right hander Jeffrey Stovall getting the start for the Demons.

NS 'U' Voice

What would you like the Student Government Association to accomplish next year?



Brandi Corkern

Sophomore

Theatre

"I think they could improve their communication in letting people know when their meetings are so students can have a chance to go."



James Perkins

Sophomore

Business Adminstration

"I would like to see the Student Government Association make the roads better on campus."



Khadijah Jackson

Senior

Criminal Justice

"I would like for there to be more opportunities for a safe night life on campus so that people can get to know each other."



Haley Jorgensen

Sophomore

Mathematics

"Next year I would like to see more cleanliness and maintenance upkeep around campus. Many students, including me, have waited weeks after filing maintenance requests to have things fixed."



Jenny Arabie

Freshman

Psychology and Addiction Studies

"I hope to see more lighting on campus, preferably around the WRAC and in parking lots to help us feel safe walking to our cars at night."



Ashlyn Guidry

Sophomore

English

"I would like to see the Student Government Association continue to do a great job with student relations, but also keep in mind disabled students because they are overlooked."

Photos by Clarisse Gaucel

Experience for the future

KIMBERLY MOSIER
Contributing Writer

We are the millennial generation of college graduates: young, educated and disproportionally jobless. In fact, we take up over 40 percent of the total U.S. unemployment rate.

The jobs, believe it or not, are out there. After six years of recovery, the U.S. economy is finally growing and companies are hiring. With the baby boomer generation retiring and companies thirsting for fresh technology skills, the market for new college grads should be booming.

However, statistics show that four out of five college student graduate with no job waiting for them, according to an article by Susan Svrluga in the Washington Post.

The reason behind this disconnect is simple: they lack experience. Students do not graduate with the entry-level knowledge demanded by employers and colleges are not grooming students for a smooth transition into the work force.

Internships are outlets that provide students with that experience. Interns are introduced to a field of work similar to what they might pursue once they graduate. The skill set they gain builds upon the knowledge they learned in the classroom, and the fear of getting an actual job outside of college appears less intimidating. Some internships, debating on the length of time the student is taken on, pay their interns a small sum for their work.

Some colleges provide options and supplemental information about internships in their career counseling department, but unfortunately NSU is not one of them. Information regarding internships is provided, but it is separated and kept within each department. Some departments are more active in posting about internships than others. So, the opportunity for potential internships is limited only to the students who happen to be fortunate enough to have a department post such information.

Each department attempts to match internships to majors, however, internships tend to overlap in various departments depending on the skill sets they require. From what I've witnessed from students desiring to enter the workforce right now, there is no need to be particular with internships. Any experience working a job is better then no experience at all.

There is also a lack of internship advertisement, forcing students to seek them out on their own. Unfortunately, since most students do not know what to look for, it is highly unlikely that a suitable internship that treats them fairly and helps nourish their skills will be found. We need guidance.

The university needs a centralized area for students to seek out internships so they can not only gain experience, but also have an opportunity to see what job will best fit their individual interests. A large majority of job candidates approach the job market without a proper strategy in mind.

By experiencing various internships, students can gain a greater understanding regarding what compatible jobs could work if they cannot obtain their first choice. As a consequence of exposing us, students, to such work experience, we can become qualified job seekers that hiring employers will want to find.

" The reason behind this disconnect is simple: They lack experience."



Clarisse Gaucel
Staff Photographer

Graphic by Hannah Fulton

Foreign student talks benefits of study abroad

CLARISSE GAUCEL
Staff Photographer

Studying abroad is never an easy decision to make. Distance from family, the introduction to a new culture and sometimes a new language are especially challenging when you travel alone.

Most students from other continents decide to pursue their education in the United States, knowing that the American college experience is quite different than their college life back home. They can refer to what they have see on television or the internet to get a feel for the American college experience.

If "dorm life" is something common to American students, across the Atlantic, the idea of campus life is nonexistent. Many European college students live off-campus with their parents or relatives, or rent an apartment near the university. The large presence of public transportation eliminates the need for dormitories.

The second biggest difference I have noticed would be the notoriety of athletes. American universities focus on the predominance of athletics. In Europe, some institutions compete in order to represent their school, but at an amateur level without any scholarship rewards.

Studying abroad allows you to experience a different style of education, which you may like better than your home school. In the U.S., most professors evaluate students with quizzes containing multiple choice questions.

Tests made up of application exercises or essay questions are the norm in Europe, and courses are typically in a lecture hall with many students. This leaves the professor less available, while in the U.S., professors are seen as mentors and classes are smaller.

The opportunity to pursue higher education in a foreign country can be a great asset in your career. Learning another language is certainly one of the biggest advantages. Though it is tough to learn a new language, hard work and perseverance quickly prove to be worth the effort.

Beyond school, another reason to consider studying abroad is the opportunity to see new parts of the world: new cultures, foods, customs and traditions. You will likely meet people that become lifetime friends and create a network for future jobs.

Studying abroad is definitely a life-changing experience that will make future employers take a second look at your application. You graduate not only with a degree but with exposure to various cultures, fluency in multiple languages and the ability to solve problems on your own.

Consent not dissent

JADE WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

While scrolling through the shenanigans of my Facebook friends, I came across a photo that displayed the percentages of people who believed that certain scenarios of rape were passable. The results were divided into gender-specified responses. In some scenarios, the female response percentages were almost equal to the male feedback.

According to a study conducted by researchers from North Dakota University, one out of every three male college students admitted that they might have sex with a woman by force if they believed that they would not suffer any consequences. During the study, the question was reworded with the word "rape" causing those numbers to plummet. This would suggest that some of the students did not associate indulging in sexual activity against someone's will as rape.

Consent, by definition, is the permission or agreement for something to take place or to happen. As young children, most of us were taught to not do something without permission. Why are those teachings forgotten when it comes to these types of situations? Not only are they forgotten, but it also seems that being indecorous is becoming more of an expected occurrence.

Growing up, I was always told to mind how I dressed, how I acted and even how I sat. At an early age, young girls are preached to not go out alone and are sometimes conditioned to believe that being a victim of rape or sexual assault is somehow their fault. In reality, the only one at fault is the abuser themselves.

Being all for dressing and behaving in a modest way, I do not believe that a person's cry for help should be ignored simply because they bent the rules. Everyone is in complete control of their actions which is why excuses such as "she led him on" or "boys will be boys" are not acceptable.

Instead of chanting about how much cleavage one should expose, asking how they were dressed at the time of the attack or even if previous relations existed with that person, reiterate and explain the definition of consent.

In a more overlooked aspect, victims may be aware of their situation but refuse to come forth out of fear. The victims fear any threats that the abuser stated and are then teeming with the overwhelming emotions that build up over time. This flood of emotions also causes detrimental effects on the victims' self-esteem. Fear can also stem from the potential grieving of secondary victims such as family members and close friends. By keeping quiet, the victim feels that they are being helpful or courteous by sparing the feelings of those closest to them.

Without any form of correction, a rapists repeated actions of ignorance towards the meaning of consent will become a continuous cycle. Prostitutes can be victims of sexual assault, but even a dog understands the word no.



Northwestern State University Fishing team members Johnny Ledet and Justin Cooper finished 23rd out of 55 teams in the FLW Colligate National Championship on Lake Keowee in Seneca, South Carolina, last week. To qualify for the tournament, the two had to make the top 15 cut at regionals and the top 10 cut at the conference tournament. Beating over 800 other college teams, the two earned a place as one of the top teams in the country. Last year the team of Ledet and Cooper won the Bassmaster College Series Central Regional Championship on the Red River. The team is supported by several local business sponsors, Coach Juddy Hamous and the NSU Alumni Association. *Photo by Leah Jackson*

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Louisiana considers marijuana legalization

Students chalk politics

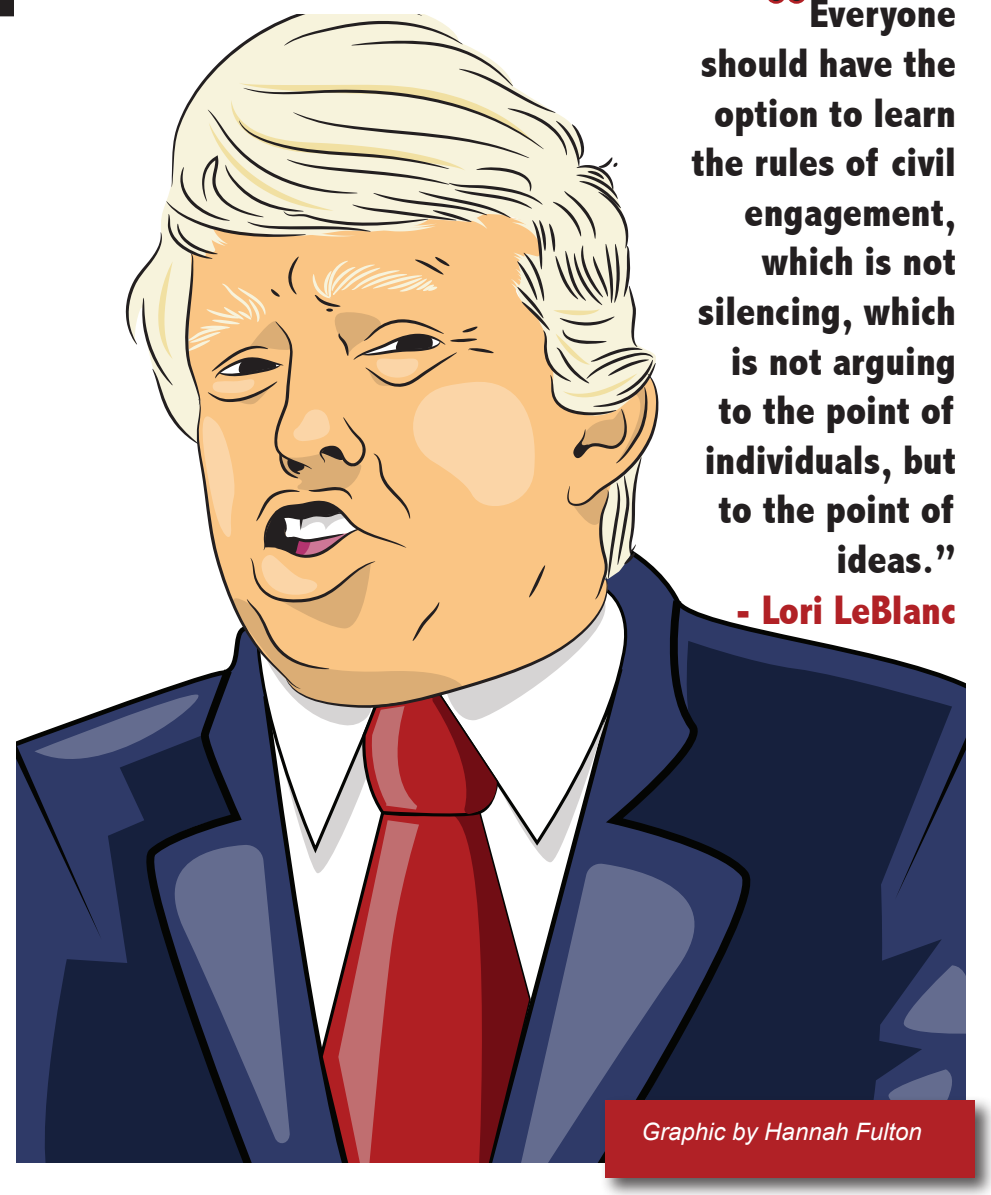
Recent political chalk drawings at La. colleges bring up free speech v. safe environment

MEG DENNY
News Editor

On April 2, student Mayshonna Winslow posted a photo on the NSU Student Concerns Facebook Page asking, "What is going to be done about this?" The photo contained three men posing next to a chalk drawing of Donald Trump with the words "Make NSU Great Again" and "Can't stump the Trump" surrounding the drawing. The post was originally on Instagram, and Winslow snapped a screenshot of the display.

Winslow's post received over 62 comments, some of which had to be deleted by the page admins for profanity and refusal to acknowledge the page's guidelines. Comments from students raised issues about freedom of speech on campus, and many debated where to draw the line between freedom of speech and the creation of a hostile environment.

The student who first posted the photo was contacted and unavailable for comment.



"Everyone should have the option to learn the rules of civil engagement, which is not silencing, which is not arguing to the point of individuals, but to the point of ideas."
- Lori LeBlanc

Graphic by Hannah Fulton

What will happen to the NSU Student Concerns Facebook Page (NSUSC)?

According to John Pearce, SGA president for the Fall 2016-Spring 2017 term, Dr. Henderson has a strong desire to keep the page intact. SGA is currently forming a committee to fix the guidelines for the page. Tre Nelson, Pearce's vice president, is a member of that committee and looks forward to the continuation of student discussion.

"I speak for SGA and Northwestern State University when I say that we want to make sure that we are not making students feel as though their creativity is stifled," Nelson said.

Deputy Title IX Coordinator Lori LeBlanc noted that the concerns page suffers from hostile comments. "It's not necessarily the initial post that causes the most pain; it's the hatefulness that comes out in the comments," LeBlanc said.

Her solution involves education and encouragement. "Everyone should have the option to learn the rules of civil engagement, which is not silencing, which is not arguing to the point of individuals, but to the point of ideas," LeBlanc said.

What does the Student Code of Conduct say about freedom of speech?

Article III, section 4.2 of the code states, "Students shall be free to support any causes by lawful means." By this standard, the Trump drawing is free to exist.

However, the code follows up in section 4.3 by saying that the university retains the right to regulate the time, manner and place of the "expression of views." The code contains no information about requiring a permit, yet assumes that the university will be notified before free speech is expressed on campus.

A permit form does exist online under "Policy on Free Speech and Demonstrations" on the NSU student links page. LeBlanc said that the code will soon state that the form must be filled out 24 to 48 hours ahead of the expression.

Multiple students on NSUSC compared the Trump drawing to the rally that happened on campus last fall. Two photos surfaced on the concerns page, one of students in blackface and one of students dressed as Caitlin Jenner pre and post transition. In response, students rallied for an accepting environment on campus.

The organizers of the rally were unaware of the permit requirements and did not submit a form, but were still allowed to demonstrate. However, if they did fill out a form, they would have noticed the following rules:

- Students may only express lawful views in these areas: the Student Union Plaza, Prather Coliseum's east parking lot and the green space between CAPA and Varnado Hall.
- The expression must be approved by the dean of students, or their designee.
- The expressions must not be scheduled during any major University events.
- The expression is allowed to last for two hours, and only occur once every seven days.

Although the requirements do not allow students to express on the Kyser brickway, both the Trump drawing and the rally in the fall took place there.

On NSUSC, Dr. Henderson said that disciplinary action could not be taken, but that the drawing could be cleaned up. "A public entity, especially one that has previously encouraged sidewalk chalk messaging, cannot declare such messaging defacement of property based arbitrarily on the content of the message," the university president said.

The student code of conduct remains unclear about purely visual expressions of views, such as drawings, banners, etc. However, flyers posted in buildings typically require approval from the department on the specific floor or building.

This is happenning across our state

At Southeastern University, according to student Tyler Witt, "Trump 2k16 Build the Wall" was written on a campus building on April 4, two days after the photo of the Trump drawing at NSU was posted.

The University of Louisiana at Lafayette saw pro-Trump slogans created with chalk all around their campus on April 4, according to Vermillion staff member Kailey Broussard. Students also responded with "pro-Bernie notes and penises near the drawings," Broussard said.

Centenary student William Morrison said that similar events to UL's recently occurred on campus.

Tech Talk staff member Rachek Maxell said that Louisiana Tech University recently had chalk drawings of Trump and slogans in support of his campaign on campus.

The Current Sauce

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Starbucks arrival elevates coffee culture

AN-GEL SAMUEL
Opinions Editor & Writer



Enjoying coffee at anytime of the day but particularly at night, Sophomore Laikyn Parker drinks her coffee and a healthy amount of creamer to function. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Freshmen Averi Garner became hooked on coffee at the age of 3 when her grandmother began offering it to her.

"I love coffee... I literally have been drinking it ever since. I drink about two or three cups every day," the secondary education major said.

With the new coffee shop coming to campus, students like Garner are ready to consume their typical one to four cups a day at the new Starbucks in Watson Library.

But how much coffee does it take to become addicted? Only 10 percent of Americans who drink one cup a day consider themselves addicted, according to Gallup. This jumps to 29 percent among those who enjoy two cups and to 46 percent among those who have three or more.

Coffee does have benefits, however. Coffee may reduce risks of developing gallstones, discourage the development of colon cancer, improve cognitive function and reduce the risk of liver disease and Parkinson's disease, according to an article from Harvard Health Publications.

"I drink coffee because of the myriad health benefits and because it keeps me moving," English instructor Joseph Briseño said. "I've been doing it for ten years. It's sort of a habit, and I'm addicted to it as well."

With these health benefits, however, comes the risk of dehydration. For those students who drink coffee to stay up at night, excess coffee intake can lead to headaches and an increase in heart rates and blood pressure, according to an MSN article.

"I use coffee to help me get through school, especially when it comes to midterms and finals so I can stay up and finish all of my assignments," freshman culinary arts major, Alyssia Pittmon, said.

As far as college students are concerned, Briseño acknowledged that a lack of sleep could cause problems. Additionally, he remarked that the health benefits of coffee only kick in after "your fourth cup of the day."

According to WebMD, caffeine is safe in moderation because it stimulates the brain. However, the withdrawal symptoms include headaches and body pains.

"I'm against the idea of anyone staying up all night, but caffeine actually just makes people better at learning," Briseño said.

Sophomore Javonti Thomas appreciates the advantages coffee can offer students.

"On the other hand, the professors shouldn't give assignments to where you would have to stay up late just to do them," Thomas said.

According to Dr. Henderson, the DemonCafe will open on April 13. Students will have easier access to the coveted Starbucks coffee and more frequently experience the effects of caffeine consumption just in time for finals.

Student government hosts leadership luncheon

The annual event began with handshakes, ended with hugs

AIRROL ANGELLE
Staff Writer

On April 4, the Student Government Associated hosted its annual Leadership Luncheon in the union. The luncheon gives students the opportunity to meet and become familiar with campus leaders such as President Jim Henderson, Marcus Jones, Margaret Kilcoyne and Chris Maggio.

The atmosphere was welcoming and resembled a family-style reception. The conversations were friendly and flowed from topics such as the following: hypothetical travel, campus improvements, family situations, aspirations for the future, curriculum critiques, things to do in town and what is new in social media.

Htet Htet Rodgers, a senator in the student affairs office, said that talking to leaders on campus was a beneficial experience.

"It made me realize that these directors and our university president care about each and every one of our voices," Rodgers said. "They gave me the reassurance that I can come to any of them whenever I have a concern."

Student talks First Amendment rights on campus

BRIA WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

In light of the appearence of a Donald Trump chalk drawing on campus property, The Current Sauce interviewed a student who actively participated in the comments section of the post made on the NSU Student Concerns Facebook Page concerning the issue. Criminal justice major Lo'gon Lombard questioned the attitude of many students participating in the dialogue on the post.

Williams: There was a lot of commotion on the Student Concerns Page regarding the post where a student asked what the university was going to do about a drawing of Donald Trump in front of Kyser Hall. What is your interpretation of "Freedom of Speech"?

Lombard: My interpretation of "Freedom of Speech" is just that. You are able to feel however you feel, and say whatever you want to say. We all won't agree on everything, but that's okay. I do feel that once your speech becomes malicious or hurtful to someone else, you are abusing your right.

W: What is your opinion on the overall attitude of the Student Concerns Page after the post?

L: I was so disappointed in NSU's student body. The author of the post did not receive any respect from her fellow classmates. She was attacked for having her own opinion. A simple question was asked and it required an answer from one person: Dr. Henderson.

The extra additives on her post were utterly unnecessary. Different phrases like "butt hurt" and "extra sensitive" were used, and I felt like they were not needed.

Once Dr. Henderson answered her question, I would have thought it would have been over and done with, but students continued to attack her for wondering if anything could be done. Someone could have said, "No, nothing can technically be done by the school because there is no rule banning this type of drawing," but that type of respectful response was not given.

So, I'd have to say I hope that NSU students do better, because the behavior on the Student Concerns Page was embarrassing. I'll probably be attacked once people read my opinions on their behavior but it was rude.

W: How do you feel about the actual portrait of Donald Trump and the phrase "Make NSU great again" that was drawn on Kyser?

L: I feel like I need to make this very clear, I do not support Donald Trump, and I will never. I feel that some *(let me repeat that for the ones in the back,)* SOME of the crowds and supporters that are drawn to him aren't the greatest.

I didn't like the drawing, but not because it was him. Look at what that drawing caused. Look at the way someone was treated for saying it. It made her uncomfortable. To me, his very presence brings something out of people and I don't like it. The drawing caused a rift between two sides, Trump supporters and people not voting for Trump. As soon as I saw the drawing, I knew what would happen.

SeaWorld promises definitive end to Orca breeding after backlash

CASSIE BRISCOE
Copy Editor

The story of Free Willy has finally come to life, as SeaWorld has agreed to end orca captivity.

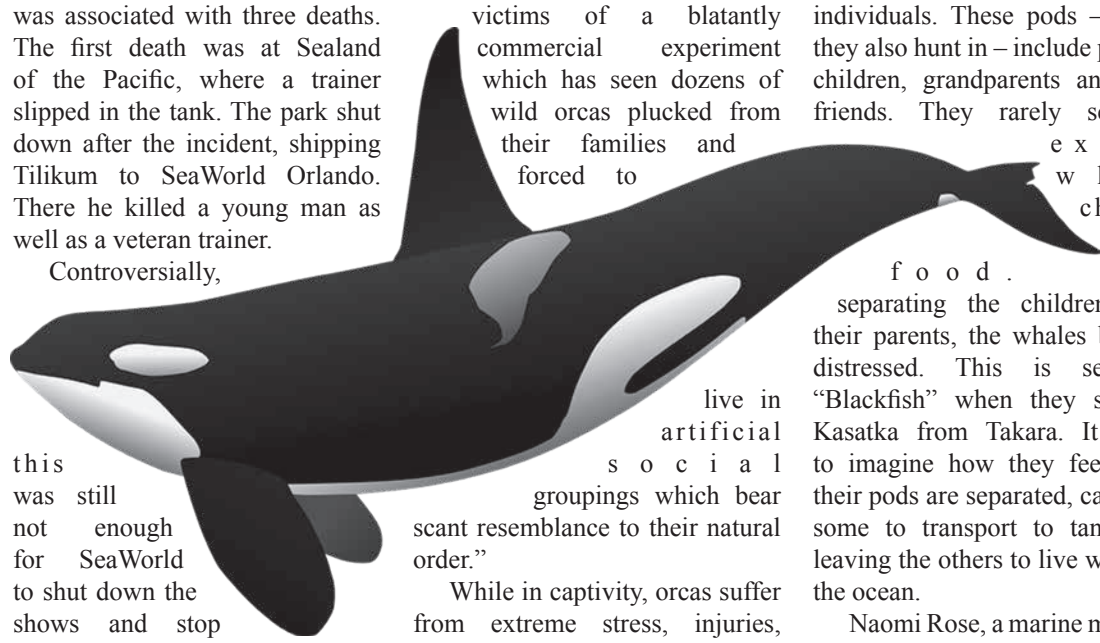
As of March 17, SeaWorld theme parks announced that they will discontinue all orca breeding. The current orcas, also known as killer whales, will be the last generation held in their tanks, which also ends all theatrical shows.

SeaWorld has always been under pressure when discussing the lives of the giant dolphins that are kept in little tanks. However, since the release of a documentary in 2013 called "Blackfish," SeaWorld has really felt the pressure.

"Blackfish" is essentially a documentary staring one particular killer whale named Tilikum.

Tilikum is the largest orca in captivity, weighing over 12,000 pounds. He has been confined for over 30 years, and in that time he was associated with three deaths. The first death was at Sealand of the Pacific, where a trainer slipped in the tank. The park shut down after the incident, shipping Tilikum to SeaWorld Orlando. There he killed a young man as well as a veteran trainer.

Controversially, this was still not enough for SeaWorld to shut down the shows and stop breeding, until now.



The Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC) is a global charity dedicated to protecting these mammals. Through research and studies, they have learned a lot about orcas, which are considered to be very intelligent individuals. WDC considers them, "helpless victims of a blatantly commercial experiment which has seen dozens of wild orcas plucked from their families and forced to live in artificial social groupings which bear scant resemblance to their natural order."

While in captivity, orcas suffer from extreme stress, injuries, diseases and infections. But the biggest issue may be the lifestyle they lose when they are captured and contained.

According to National Geographic, killer whales are very family-oriented mammals. They travel in pods, which can sometimes consist of up to 40 individuals. These pods – which they also hunt in – include parents, children, grandparents and even friends. They rarely separate, except when chasing for food. By separating the children from their parents, the whales become distressed. This is seen in "Blackfish" when they separate Kasatka from Takara. It's hard to imagine how they feel when their pods are separated, capturing some to transport to tanks and leaving the others to live wildly in the ocean.

Naomi Rose, a marine mammal scientist, says that orcas in the ocean travel from 50-100 miles a day in their pods. This allows them to live a healthy life, with a life expectancy of between 50-80 years, depending on the sex. However, the orcas in the tank cannot even travel a mile without bumping into glass walls.

SGA minutes

Monday, April 4

•The bridge in front of the union will be completed by May 1.

•All capital outlay projects are halted; the state has given no money to fund these projects, such as the rebuilding of Kyser Hall or the road extension near Chaplin's Lake.

•The Student Concerns Facebook page guidelines will be adjusted soon; the first meeting of SGA leaders to revise the page will take place on Monday, April 11. The committee will incorporate student opinions into their revision process.

•President Matthew Whitaker addressed SGA members about the rest of the semester: "Don't forget — the work is not over; we still have things to do. Of course, you guys have been great and I expect nothing less."

Police Blotter

March 22
Drug violation
UP 2
No drugs found, verbal warning given

March 23
Possible drug violation
UP 1
Ongoing investigation

Panic alarm
Student Union

March 25
Vehicle vandalized
UP 2
Officer took record

March 29
Unsupervised child
Warren Easton Hall
Gone on arrival

March 31
Fire alarm
WRAC
Fire Department called

iHeartRadio Music Awards Recap

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

iHeartRadio held its third annual Music Awards April 3 at The Forum in Inglewood, Calif.

Jason Derulo hosted the event which showcased performances by Derulo, Justin Bieber, Meghan Trainor, Fetty Wap, Chris Brown, DNCE and Nile Rodgers on guitar, G-Eazy and Bebe Rexha, ZAYN and Iggy Azalea.

Demi Lovato was accompanied by Brad Paisley on guitar as she sang "Stone Cold."

Pitbull performed "Fireball" and Maroon 5 played "Animals," streamed live from the 2016 NCAA March Madness Music Festival. The Weeknd performed their song "Acquainted" live from the 2016 Juno Awards.

The 29 awards were presented from one artist to another, seven of which were fan-voted categories and included four new categories. Voting was available on the iHeartRadio website Feb. 9 through March 25.

The previous Artist of the Year Award was divided this year into Female and Male Artist of the Year.

Taylor Swift did well at this year's show, swifting away with four awards. She won Female Artist against nominees Adele, Selena Gomez, Meghan Trainor and Carrie Underwood. Swift also won Album of the Year, beating Adele"s "25," The Weeknd's "Beauty Behind the Madness," Sam Smith's "In the Lonely Hour" and Ed Sheeran's "x."

Swift also took Best Tour over nominees Garth Brooks, Luke Bryan, Foo Fighters and U2. She also won Most Meme-able Moment with her running mascara face in her music video for "Blank Space."

Another successful artist at this year's festival was Justin Bieber who won Male Artist of the Year against Luke Bryan, Ed Sheeran, Sam Smith and The Weeknd. His electronic collaboration with Jack Ü the producing duo Skrillex and Diplo won him Dance Song of the Year. Bieber's Beliebers also won him the award for Best Fan Army.

Previously unrecognized Twenty One Pilots had a clear landing at the show, taking both Alternative Rock awards. Drake dominated the Hip Hop awards, taking both Song and Artist of the Year.

AWARD	WINNER
Song of the Year	“Hello” by Adele
Female Artist of the Year	Taylor Swift
Male Artist of the Year	Justin Bieber
Best New Artist	Fetty Wap
Best Duo/Group of the Year	Maroon 5
Album of the Year	“1989” by Taylor Swift
Best Tour of the Year	Taylor Swift
Alternative Rock Artist of the Year	Twenty One Pilots
Alternative Rock Song of the Year	“Stressed Out” by Twenty One Pilots
Rock Artist of the Year	Foo Fighters
Rock Song of the Year	“Heavy Is the Head” by Zac Brown Band featuring Chris Cornell
Country Song of the Year	“Buy Me a Boat” by Chris Janson
Country Artist of the Year	Luke Bryan
Dance Song of the Year	“Where Are Ü Now” – Skrillex & Diplo with Justin Bieber
Dance Artist of the Year	Calvin Harris
Hip Hop Song of the Year	“Hotline Bling” by Drake
Hip Hop Artist of the Year	Drake
R&B Song of the Year	“Earned It” by The Weeknd
R&B Artist of the Year	Chris Brown
Latin Song of the Year	“El Perdón” – Nicky Jam & Enrique Iglesias
Latin Artist of the Year	Pitbull
Regional Mexican Song of the Year	“Levantando Polvadera” by Vos de Mando
Regional Mexican Artist of the Year	Banda Los Recoditos
Best Lyrics	“Fight Song” by Rachel Platten
Best Collaboration	“Uptown Funk” by Mark Ronson featuring Bruno Mars
Best Cover Song	“Uptown Funk” by Fifth Harmony, Jasmine V, Jacob Whitesides and Mahogany Lox
Best Song from a Movie	“Til It Happens to You” by Lady Gaga from “The Hunting Ground”
Biggest Triple Threat	Selena Gomez
Most Meme-able Moment	Taylor Swift’s “Crazy Girl” with Running Mascara (from “Blank Space” video)
Best Fan Army	Justin Bieber’s Beliebers
iHeartRadio Innovator Award	U2



Jazz Fest without the jazz

JAMES LEACH
Contributing Writer

As a jazz musician myself, I can say that the genre of jazz covers a wide spectrum of music and is hands down the most accepting community in terms of inviting change to the genre.

This leads to some confusion regarding where the line between jazz and not jazz is. Is the music of Red Hot Chili Peppers jazz? I wouldn't say so. They're commonly categorized as an American rock band, and I've never heard them on my Jazz Pandora station.

How about Nick Jonas. Is he jazz? Currently, he's considered a pop rock artist and again, I've never heard him on my Jazz Pandora station. J. Cole? He is an American hip-hop artist, not a jazz musician. The most insulting part is that all three of those acts are headlining in a time slot above Herbie Hancock at this year's New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival.

The jazz legend that is Herbie Hancock will wrap up his set right before Nick Jonas takes the stage. Though jazz is the most accepting community in terms of change, those acts are simply not jazz. How many times per song do you think Nick Jonas, J. Cole and Red Hot Chili Peppers are going to improvise? I would say very minimal improvisation will take place during those sets, and improvisation is one of the biggest characteristics of jazz.

The same goes for our very own Natchitoches Jazz and R&B festival. Last year, the two closing acts were .38 Special, a classic rock band from the '80s and PRISS, an all-female KISS tribute band. Again, I don't think many would consider them jazz or R&B, so why were they there?

Why does Herbie Hancock go second to pop and rock artists?

The answer is actually pretty straightforward and slightly sad. The general public doesn't enjoy or listen to jazz, but it's likely they do listen to Red Hot Chili Peppers, Nick Jonas or J. Cole. That's why these artists are here: to draw in the general public so that these festivals can take place.

I know of at least 20 to 30 people who came to the Natchitoches Jazz and R&B Festival at night just to see one of their favorite classic rock bands, .38 Special, play and I wouldn't be surprised if many more showed up just for the headliners as well.

This means that the large crowd that these other bands bring to jazz festivals allow these commonly unheard of jazz musicians to be paid well and play for a larger audience.

I still wish jazz was popular enough so jazz musicians could headline our own music festivals, but I think most jazz musicians would say they're just glad they're getting to play for a crowd that enjoys listening to them and to finally be out of the smokey bar that they reside in weekly.

On a side note, I also play in rock bands, so this isn't me ranting about the devil's music. I'm simply trying to answer a question I get repeatedly asked. Stay hydrated and see you at Jazz Fest!

Full STEAM ahead in education

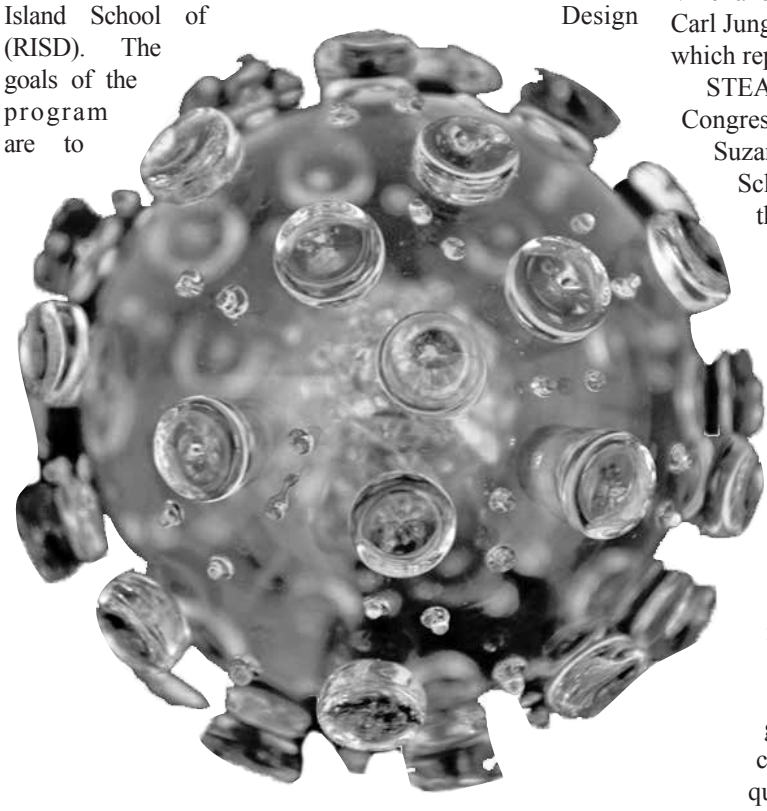
Incorporating the arts into Sesame Street's STEM curriculum has been compared to the "... synergy embodied in great thinkers like the legendary Leonardo Da Vinci and the renowned Chinese polymath Su Song. Once of Carl Jung's mythological archetypes was the artist-scientist, which represents builders, inventors and dreamers."

Dr. Rosemarie Truglio

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

Microplate Art Pipetting is a trending middle school science activity that combines art with science. During the lab activity, student's pipet microliter volumes of food colored water onto the microplate. The activity was made to practice the important skill of accurate pipetting and navigating a 96-well microplate while also creating a work of art.

STEAM was pioneered by Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). The goals of the program are to transform research policy to include art and design with STEM, encourage art and design in K-20 education and to influence employers to hire artists and designers to drive innovation and transform the economy, according to the STEM to STEAM website.



A glass sculpture by Luke Jerram which is an accurate model of the HIV virus showcased at the Bristol Art Gallery. The sculptures are alternative representations and are made for the public to question these viruses and their global impact.
Photo from Flickr

This experiment is part of a larger education reformation, adding art to STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and math), thus creating STEAM, STEM + Art/Design.

These fields are highlights in education because of the impact they have on the economy. "Science and technology are the primary drivers of our world economy, and the United States is in the lead," according to Steven Pomeroy in Scientific American.

Many educational programs are beginning to integrate art and design. The famous program, "Sesame Street," announced that during its 43rd season it will be making a conscious effort to include art into its existing STEM focus. "Elmo the Musical" is a newer episodic segment during which Elmo leads the audience on an educational adventure, while using singing, dancing and focusing on the use of imagination and mathematical skills.

"Incorporating the arts into our STEM curriculum was an exciting and natural addition, as Sesame Street has always used music, visual and performing arts as tools to educate and entertain children," says SVP of Education and Research Dr. Rosemarie Truglio at Sesame Workshop, according to STEM to STEAM. Many other programs have adopted the STEAM program with success.

According to Pomeroy, there has always been a connection between science and art: "This synergy was embodied in great thinkers like the legendary Leonardo Da Vinci and the renowned Chinese polymath Su Song. One of Carl Jung's mythological archetypes was the artist-scientist, which represents builders, inventors, and dreamers."

STEAM is growing in popularity and has a Congressional caucus to promote it. Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) and Congressman Aaron Schock (R-IL) announced the establishment of the Congressional STEAM Caucus in Feb. 2013. The goal of the program is "to encourage the creativity needed to drive our innovation economy forward," according to a press release from Washington D.C. (According to RSID President John Maeda.) "Adding art and design to STEM to create STEAM will keep America competitive."

"We can't ignore the importance of engaging and educating both halves of the brain. Creative, critical thinking leads to innovation. The integration of the arts into STEM curriculum will excite creativity in the minds of our future leaders and innovators," stated Bonamici.

"When we talk about training the next generation of workers – creative minds and creative thinking are some of the most important qualities that employers look for when making hiring decisions," Schock said. "Studies have shown that arts education increases test scores and lowers dropout rates – arts education helps to close the achievement gap, improves academic skills essential for reading and language development and advances students' motivation to learn."



A microdish example of BioArt made with bacteria expressing eight different colors of fluorescent proteins.
Photo from Wikipedia

The press release refers to a study led by Robert Bernstein of Michigan State University, which states Nobel laureates in the sciences are more likely to engage in the arts. This study shows that these scientists are creative and able to think critically and solve important scientific problems.

"There is increasing evidence to suggest the arts and creativity can increase innovation and, as important, achievement in science," according to Bio-Rad, a supplier of these projects and other biomedical technologies. Bio-Rad offers microplate art pipetting, pGlow plates, DNA bracelets, pGlo Plasmid and GFP kits all of which use science to create works of art.

During his graduate research, microbiologists Zachary Copfer created a new form of visual art by using various bacteria as his medium of choice, combining photographic processes with microbiology. Copfer coined the term Bacteriography for these petridish art pieces. Some of his more popular works are of Albert Einstein, Charles Darwin, Picasso, Leonardo da Vinci and famous actors.

These photos are printed with bacteria growth. Copfer's bacteriographs use a process similar to the collodion process, an early photographic process of the 19th century. He compares the process to darkroom photography, "only the enlarger has been replaced by a radiation source and instead of photo sensitive paper this process uses a petri dish coated with a living bacterial emulsion," Copfer states on his website.

Artist Luke Jerram created Glass Microbiology, bodies of glass work which represent viruses and their global impact. Since 2004, Jerram has created these glass sculptures, "as alternative representations of viruses to the artificially colored imagery received through the media," according to his website. The glasswork is colorless just like the viruses, which are colored for learning and aesthetic reasons.

Photographs of the glass sculptures are used in medical journals, text books and media as "useful representations of virology within the scientific community," according to Jerram's website. Jerram's artwork has received 15 international awards, is showcased in 16 museums around the globe and is for sale to private collectors and public museums.

Lawmakers consider bringing the 'green rus

JACOB HICKS
Staff Writer

State lawmakers in Louisiana are looking into the possible legalization of marijuana statewide to help fill the $850 million void in the budget. The idea surfaced when lawmakers found that legal marijuana sales contributed $900 million dollars to the state of Colorado in 2015 alone.

When Colorado and Washington started to tax and regulate recreational weed sales, and medical marijuana in 18 states, we finally started putting some hard numbers on the industry's value.

The national legal marijuana market was $1.53 billion dollars in 2013, according to a November 2013 report by ArcView Market Research. This was in 2013, when only two states had legalized it statewide. Who's to say how much money was and is being made in the illegal market?

In the first two months that Colorado had legal weed, they made $6.17 million dollars from the tax revenue.

Also in 2015, Colorado's pot revenue was so high that a state law may cause them to return some of the overall tax money back to the industry.

Yes, you read that right. The state is literally too rich because of marijuana, and they don't know what to do with the surplus.

But wouldn't legalizing weed create more crime?

The legalization of marijuana in the small number of states has actually hurt the pockets of the Mexican drug cartel, who supply much of the drug to the country. The U.S. Border Patrol also reported a nearly 9 percent decrease in marijuana seizures in 2014 to 2015.

"Two or three years ago, a kilogram of marijuana was worth $60 to $90," a Mexican marijuana grower told NPR. "But now they're paying us $30 to $40 a kilo. It's a big difference. If the U.S. continues to legalize pot, they'll run us into the ground."

But isn't marijuana bad for your health?

Considering that the three deadliest drugs in America are legal, this argument does not work either. Tobacco cost 437,400 lives, alcohol cost 29,001 and painkillers cost 16,235 lives in 2013 alone.

How many people has marijuana killed in 2013? Zero.

What about 2014 or 2015? Zero.

No one in recorded history has ever overdosed on marijuana.

In fact, marijuana helps make lives better for cancer-ridden patients with their nausea, vomiting and pain and for patients with sleep problems.

Louisiana, however, has some of the harshest marijuana laws in the country, and they are notorious for putting non-violent marijuana users behind bars. Minorities are the ones put behind bars for marijuana related crimes, with up to 64 percent of marijuana arrests against African Americans. However, it goes much farther than

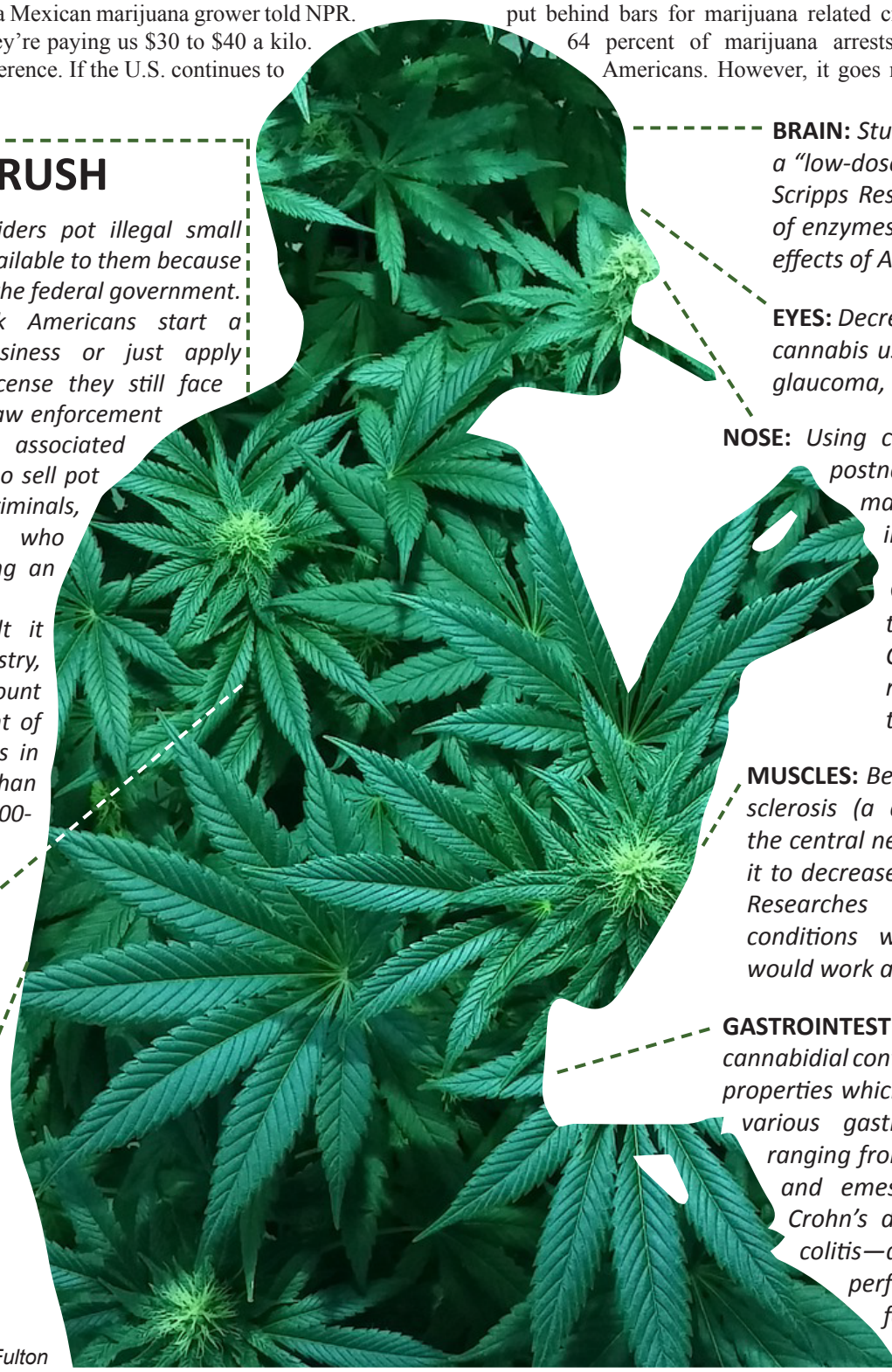
WHITEWASHING THE GREEN RUSH

With the legal marijuana market booming in several states many are eager to get their cut. But many are being blocked out of this business for one reason only: prior drug offenses. Which usually means black people are unable to find work in this growing industry.

In the background of this stands the "war on drugs," something mostly felt by black Americans, even though research shows that people from all races are near equals on breaking the law by growing, smoking or selling pot. Beyond the fallout of the "war on drugs" black Americans face another obstacle when trying to enter the business: Sarah Cross from Green Rush Consulting estimates that it costs at least $250,000 to start a business. However, with a history of discrimination in housing, employment and education many black Americans are less likely to have or raise that kind of money. While the federal goverment still considers pot illegal small bank loans are not available to them because banks are insured by the federal government.

Even when black Americans start a legal marijuana business or just apply for the necessary license they still face discrimination from law enforcement due to the stigma associated with black people who sell pot being dangerous criminals, while white people who sell pot are practicing an alternative lifestyle.

With how difficult it is to get in the industry, black people only account for about one percent of legal pot dispensaries in the country—less than three dozen out of 3,200-3,600 shops.



LUNGS: *According to an article from the January 2012 edition of the 'Journal of the American Medical Association' cannabis, unlike tobacco doesn't inhibit lung function and may actually improve the users' lungs. The study lasted two decades following the risk factors for heart disease of 5,115 young adults. Tobacco smokers lost lung function over time, while pot smokers saw no decrease in fuction but instead saw a more voluminous breath.*

SKELETAL SYSTEM: *Using a cannabis derivative called Sativex has recently been found to reduce arithtis pains over a two week period. So instead of using addictive pain killers for pain management, people who suffer with arthritis, joint pain, stiffness, Plantar fasciitis, trouble healing or Carpal tunnel syndrome can use medical marijuana for their pain management.*

BRAIN: *Studies at Harvard M a "low-dose sedative" helpi Scripps Research Center pe of enzymes that lead to dec effects of Alzheimer's.*

EYES: *Decreased fluid pressu cannabis use. This makes it glaucoma, which can lead to*

NOSE: *Using cannabis can he postnasal drip and muc make airways large in these cases.*

GENETICS: *Canna that allows cance California Pacific M research the cana to be promising.*

MUSCLES: *Because cannabis c sclerosis (a disease that att the central nervous system) co it to decrease their muscle sp Researches are studying conditions where marijuana would work as a muscle relaxa*

GASTROINTESTINAL TRACT: *THC cannabidial contain anti-inflamm properties which can be used to various gastrointestinal disc ranging from the simple—na and emesis—to the seri Crohn's disease and ulce colitis—according to res performed at the C for Medicinal Can Research at UCS*

Graphic by Hannah Fulton

h' to Louisiana

that. Enforcing all of these laws cost Louisiana $46.4 million dollars per year.

Some of the arguments that Louisiana lawmakers are making is that marijuana can be addictive for people, and that it is bad for your physical health. Caffeine, tobacco and alcohol, however, are proven to be more addictive then marijuana.

It's almost impossible to get out of commercials without seeing Coca Cola advertisements, and yet you can die from drinking too much of it or drinking too much Monster.

Of course addiction happens. People can be addicted to anything, including marijuana. Some people are more susceptible to becoming addicted in general. No matter how much someone could be addicted to marijuana, it still can't kill them.

We are looking at a massive industry that is just waiting to be taken. But is Louisiana going to pull the trigger on this? Will they get so desperate that they do eventually legalize it state wide? Only time will tell.

Medical School has found that marijuana also works as
ng calm those who suffer with anxiety. Kim Janda from
rformed a study that shows THC blocks the fomation
creased brain function, which may help slow down the

ure inside the eyes has been found when combined with
a frequent prescription of choice for those who have
o optic nerve damage and cause blindness.

lp with complications from sinusitis congestion like
cus buildup. They also relax the respiratory muscles and
r. Physicians tend to prescribe edibles instead of joints

abidiol, a compound in marijuana, can "turn off" a gene
r cell growth according to researchers at San Francisco's
Medical Center. Research beginning in 2007 continues to
cer-preventive potential of marijuana. Results continue

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The candidate you're not talking about

"Hello, I'm Vermin Supreme. I'm running for President of America. I am a friendly fascist. I am a tyrant that you can trust, and you should let me run your life because I know what is best for you."



ASHLEY WOLF
Multimedia Coordinator

Vermin Supreme is a man with a mangy beard and a boot for a hat. His name sounds like a rodent-flavored burrito from Taco Bell, but this doesn't stop him in life. Vermin Supreme is a current presidential candidate, and he has been running since 1992.

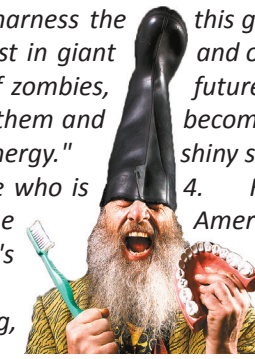
Although running for President seems like serious business, Vermin is actually an unwavering political satirist, using parody to point to the flaws in the American election system like it's his religious duty. He delivers his Vermon sermon with conviction, promoting his four main platforms to anyone who will hear. Vermin is an evangelistic troll, and his salvation message is anarchy.

A preview of what to expect if you vote Vermin Supreme:

1. Zombie Preparedness: "And I'm going to harness the zombies for energy sources by utilizing the latest in giant hamster wheel technology...We will have lots of zombies, and we'll just, sort of, dangle brains in front of them and then they will turn the giant turbines, creating energy."

2. Time travel research: "I'm the only candidate who is willing to fully fund time travel, go back in time and kill baby Hitler with my bare hands before he's even born."

3. Mandatory tooth brushing laws: For too long, this great country has been suffering a great moral and oral decay in spirit and incisors... Our country's future depends on its ability to bite back. May we become a sea of shining, smiling faces, from sea to shiny sea. Thank you, I'm Vermin Supreme."

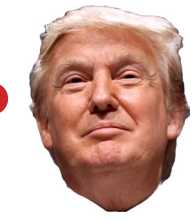


4. Free ponies for everyone: "Free ponies for all Americans. It is, of course, a job stimulus creation program and it is a federal pony identification program. And you must have your pony with you at all times."

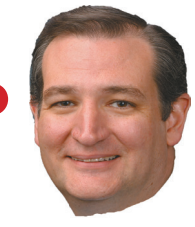
Vermin's parody is about as cryptic as a Saturday Night Live skit, which means his mockery is not cryptic at all. His hyperbolic performance art functions as anti-establishment activism, and it seems to be making a difference. In New Hampshire's Democratic primary election, Vermin placed fourth, receiving 256 votes. This puts him just behind Gov. Martin O'Malley and above our previous Louisiana governor, Bobby Jindal.

If a Vermin Supreme were an item on the Taco Bell menu, it would come with extra packets of sarcasm sauce. Vermin's buffoonery questions the inherent ridiculousness of the American political system. How do our political candidates snag our votes? What do they stand for, and do they really know what is best for us? Do our presidential candidates keep their promises once they come into office? From flea to shining flea, Vermin just wants everybody to be free.

What's he saying about the competition:



"Well, of course, I believe that I paved the way for Donald Trump. I've brought ridiculousness to politics. He saw an opening and he jumped on in there," he said of Donald Trump



"Come out with your hands up and your pants down," Supreme said to Ted Cruz while trying to flag him down before the Republican candidate could flee on a bus.

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Astrological Signs

April 6, 2015

AN-GEL SAMUEL
Staff Writer



Aquarius

Jan. 20-Feb. 18

This is the sign of visionaries, characterized by unconventionality and intellectual independence. Aquarius are the people who deviate from the crowd and go their own way. They are always after intellectual stimulation, constantly discovering something new, forming new opinions and stubbornly traveling their way regardless of what other people think.

Pisces

Feb. 19- March 20

Pisces is the sign of mysticism, mystery and the spiritual unknown. Pisces live in two worlds: the real world and the spiritual or mystical world where they interpret what they see into what they want. They do this to avoid all the realities of pain and suffering in the world. They have extremes of emotions and feel both good and bad intensely.

Aries

March 21- April 19

Aries is the first of the zodiac signs. They are the sign of the self. People born under this sign strongly project their personalities onto others and can be very self-oriented. Aries tend to venture out into the world and leave impressions on others that they are exciting, vibrant and talkative. Aries tend to live adventurous lives and like to be the center of attention, but rightly so, since they are natural, confident leaders.

Taurus

April 20- May 20

Taurus are the ones who have immense perseverance, even when others have given up, the Taurus rages on. They are solid and persistent, just like the bull, which is Taurus' well-suited symbol. They have a well-known reputation for being stubborn, which is not necessarily a bad thing. The stubborn streak can cause Taurus to butt heads and conflict with other strong character types.

Gemini

May 21- June 20

Geminis are both quick in mind and physicality because they are many sided. They are brimming with energy and vitality, and they are clever with words. They are intelligent and very adaptable to every situation and every person. Geminis are curious about the world around them. They are not one to sit back and watch the world go by; they want to be involved.

Cancer

June 21- July 22

Cancer is a mysterious sign, filled with contradictions. They want security and comfort yet seek new adventure. They are very helpful to others, but can sometimes be cranky and indifferent. Cancers have a driving, forceful personality that can be easily hidden beneath a calm and cool exterior. The crab is Cancer's ruling animal, and it suits them well. They can come out of their shell and fight but they can also hide in their shell and skitter away back into the depths of the ocean. They are very unpredictable.

Leo

July 23- Aug 22

The lion, Leos possess a kingdom which they protect and cherish. They're highly esteemed, honorable and very devoted to themselves in particular. The kingdom could be anything from work to home to a partner. Whatever it is, they rule it. Leo is always center stage and full of flair. They enjoy basking in the spotlight. Leos always make their presence known.

Virgo

Aug 23- Sept. 21

Virgos exist in the mind; everything is internal. To the world, Virgos presents a calm and collected exterior, but on the inside contain a nervous uncontrolled intensity as they try to figure things out by analyzing and thinking. Virgos can tire themselves out without even moving.

Libra

Sept. 22- Oct. 23

Libras are the diplomats of the zodiac. They are able to put themselves in others' shoes and see things through another person's point of view. They are the ones that always want to make things right and have balance and harmony in their lives. They have captivating charm, elegant taste and are easy to like due to their eager-to-please, easy-going nature.

Scorpio

Oct. 24- Nov. 21

This is the sign of extremes and intensity. Scorpios are very deep, intense people; there is always more than meets the eye. They present a cool, detached and unemotional air to the world, yet lying underneath is tremendous power, extreme strength, intense passion and a strong will and persistent drive.

Sagittarius

Nov. 22- Dec. 21

Sagittarius seem to be guided by luck. Good things happen to Sagittarius, and this is usually because of their optimistic outlook and positive disposition attracting good fortune. Despite hardships, Sagittarius is always optimistic that good things will happen tomorrow, and the future carries good luck.

Capricorn

Dec. 22- Jan. 19

Capricorns are very ambitious people. They always have something they are pursuing, and they want their lives to be fulfilled and important. Capricorns are extremely patient and will wait a long time for something they want. When the opportunity arises, they will plan their steps carefully to others.





(Left) Tia Youngblood is a sophomore from DeRidder. During her second year on the team, Youngblood played in 31 games, averaging 4.7 points per game. (Right) Shahd Abboud is a junior from Nazareth, Israel. Transferring from Jacksonville College, this is Abboud's first year playing guard for the Lady Demons. She played in 31 games this season, averaging 7.1 points per game. (Below) Keisha Lee is a graduating senior from Denham Springs. In her final year playing guard for the Lady Demons, Lee played in 21 games, averaging 9.5 points per game. Lee has the honor of finishing 17th for career scoring at NSU. *Photos from NSU Photolab*



Lady Demons' basketball season comes to an end

CASSANDRA BRISCOE
Copy Editor

For the first time in three years, the Southland Conference trophy did not occupy a seat on the bus ride home.

After a great season, the Lady Demons' basketball campaign came to a close, although they hoped for a different result.

NSU placed second in regular season play, giving them an automatic bye into the semi-finals of the Southland Conference tournament.

However, after a hard fought battle Saturday afternoon, the Lady Demons came up short, losing to Sam Houston by a score of 78-71.

The bearkats were the seventh seed going into the tournament and played in three consecutive games, losing only in the finals to Central Arkansas.

This game was obviously a shock to many Southland Conference fans, who remember NSU hosting the tournament trophy for the past two seasons in a row. Unfortunately, third time was not the charm for the Lady Demons this year.

With the season coming to an end, we say goodbye to players who have had a pinnacle role in the culture of success for this basketball program. There are three seniors who wore the purple and white jersey for the last time on Wednesday.

Janelle Perez, a physical therapy major, is one of the most decorated players in Lady Demon history. Her name has been on the Southland Conference All-Tournament team for three consecutive years. Perez has also placed in the books, setting records for three-pointers and placing seventh in career scoring. This year she recieved the Southland Conference student-athlete of the year award. Perez also hopes to continue her basketball career and play overseas professionally following graduation.

Keisha Lee, a health and exercise science major, is another key player for the Lady Demons. She has many honors and awards attached to her name. Most memorably, Lee finished 17th in NSU's history book for career scoring.

Meghan Cross, a biomedical major, has been a student-athlete at NSU for two years. She was awarded a championship ring in her first season at the Division I level. She will graduate with a 3.9 GPA and hopes to continue her education after graduation. She plans to attend medical school and later become a doctor.

The Lady Demons' season was not completely over after their loss in the conference semi-finals. After an impressive season, the team received a bid into the Women's Basketball Invitational tournament. In the first game, they tipped off against defending champion, University of Louisiana-Lafayette. Although they fought hard, the Lady Demons came up short by a score of 69-54.

For the second year in a row, the Lady Demons were just shy of 20 wins in all competitions, finishing the season with an overall record of 19-12.

Although the team loses three key players after graduation, this is still a very strong program. With other important players such as Beatrice Attura, Cheyenne Brown and Shahd Abboud supplying big numbers, the future of this team looks bright. The Lady Demons will miss Perez for her buzzer-beating three-pointers but hope to find a way to get back on their winning streak for next basketball season.



Smoking on campus unwanted

JADE WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

On Aug. 1, 2014, NSU officially became a tobacco-free university. The policy summary states, "The use of tobacco products of any form, and e-cigarettes are prohibited on all campuses and property of NSU." The policy also specifies that this rule applies to all faculty staff, students and campus visitors.

Unfortunately, given that information, there are still individuals who believe that they are above the rules of the university. Being a student myself, I understand how restricting and unnecessary some rules can be. While definitely being restricting, this rule is certainly not unnecessary.

Like having a car, being able to smoke on campus is a luxury. Like anyone, having that luxury taken away would make me upset or uncomfortable. However, perhaps attempting to understand the health concerns a nicotine addiction can bring from a non-smokers' perspective would suffice in calming the waters of this controversial issue.

I am writing on behalf of asthmatics when saying that secondhand smoke is one of the main triggers for asthma attacks. The medical website, WebMD, gives a more detailed explanation by stating that the tobacco smoke irritates the cilia in the airways. This irritation damages the cilia, which leaves them unable to perform their primary function of sweeping dust and mucus out of the airways. This build up is what causes the attack.

Further research lead to the discovery that secondhand smoke may be even more harmful than puffing straight from the stick. The smoke that is being burned off contains harmful substances, such as carbon monoxide and tar. These lingering toxins are what cause asthmatics, as well as people without asthma, to resemble the rasping chants of the Pokémon, Weezing.

The dangers of smoking for the smoker are known all too well. They are printed on cigarette boxes, preached about in anti-drug programs and even found in advertisements. With this information embedded in our brains, reciting the dangers of smoking would be fruitless.



To the contrary, the dangers of secondhand smoke are only slightly broadcasted. Smoking is an action that not only affects the smokers themselves, but also the people around them.

The argument that people can do what they want with their own bodies works only if you're neglecting to consider the many other bodies affected. In short, it is your body and you can do as you please. You are entitled to your own free will to take in as many toxins as you wish. But, please, just don't take me with you.

Partners share technology woes

AIRROL ANGELLE
Staff Writer

Meg,

I am aware that you think I do not care about texting you back. Sometimes there are hours between my responses. Often I feel as though there are hours between each breath I take.

My phone shame is real. I own the cheapest phone from Consumer Cellular. Last Christmas, my phone turned 5 years old. Texts do not come in right on time. Phone calls can turn into screaming matches because of static on my end. When I am trying to text you back, my phone freezes and shuts off.

One of your most endearing qualities is your impatience. It makes you aggressive. It motivates you. You do not have time to wait for things to happen. You make them happen. I admire you immensely.

When I am writing a long response to you, I imagine Shakespeare writing a sonnet, all the while being interrupted by the intended receiver, “Hello? Hey? Are you ignoring me? What is wrong with you? Write me back! Why is it so hard for you to do the simplest things?”

Sending me multiple texts before I have the chance to respond only prolongs the process. It is the number one cause of my phone freeze. If I have the patience to brush off your harsh words when you think I am ignoring you, then requite my patience. Have faith in me. Know that I saw your text. Believe that I am going to reply. Trust that you are the most important part of my life.

When phone freeze is not causing the lag in my response time, it can be attributed to perfectionism. I am hand crafting a special message just for you. I am trying to express how much I love you with each keystroke.

I care so much about how I communicate with you. I NEED to say the perfect thing. I ALWAYS need to say the perfect thing. I repeat this in my mind while I am with you and away from you. I treat every response to you as delicate, almost explosive.

We have already been through so much for you being so young. I do not want to be the mistake you remember most about college. I want to be by your side for the rest of my life. I know our relationship is strong, but my sordid past has taught me that happiness is fragile. It is not your fault, and I apologize for every carryover.

There is a reaction I must call out separately. In times of high stress, my desire to be close to you is overwhelming. During these times I tend to turn every text you send me into an emergency, a call for help, a reason to rush to your aid. I want you to think you need me. The truth is – I need you.



MEG DENNY
News Editor

Airrol,

When you leave your phone uncharged for three days straight, you have to know that I wilI worry. When I do not receive a response within a few hours even, I think you must have experienced a car accident, an allergy attack or an assault by one of those giant squirrels roaming around campus.

I understand that the convenience of technology lead me to this point of constant anxiety. Because you are able to offer a quick “I’m OK,” I now expect this. I am not proud of my dependency on texts, but I remain dependent regardless.

I am not looking for constant attention, nor the useless smalltalk that texting inevitably promises to bring. I am looking for a “Yes, I’m around.”

When I go into Walgreens, I always pass by the card section and glance at the cheesy jokes made on the covers. Sometimes I wish that were my job, though you’d be better at it because you choose your words more carefully than I. What I enjoy most about the cards is the thought. If I send my grandmother a “Thinking of You” card, I know it will matter.

The great thing about today is that a thinking-of-you moment is only a text away. It seems so easy, but I realize the overthinking process you put yourself through hinders the convenience. Just think: We can send each other those humorous cards in a matter of seconds through memes, photos and just our own words.

Snapchat adds another opportunity. You don’t even have to type. All I want is the communication involved in a funny photo of your cats.

We are apart often; I travel, you work. It is not easy to type a giant letter into a phone or computer during these times — we are not Mark Twain and Olivia Langdon (though that would be pretty interesting, right?), or any other of those famous letter-writing fiends.

We are college students. Just send me a picture of the view outside of your kitchen window or your lunch of creamy chicken-flavored ramen. I love that stuff (not the ramen, but the arbitrary photos).

I am looking for an “I’m OK,” and a glimpse of your everyday life. Our connection matters to me so much, and I do not need more than what is easy, comical and real to feel it.



After scouring the campus, copy editor Jacob Farnsley found several possible smoking areas. The first area is located in the tailgating field for people who want to smoke before or after a game around the athletic fields. The second area is the small field adjacent to CAPA and is for students located in Russell Hall and CAPA. The third smoking area would be located between Caspari Road and the union, giving students a break to see who's coming and going. The fourth location would be at the side of the field by the parking lot behind Williamson Hall and in front of Bienvenue Hall, giving students from many departments the opportunity to share a common ground. The fifth location is by the side entrance of University Columns close to the Health and Human Performance Building. The sixth location is for residence in University Place 1 around a group of trees on top of the hill with a parking lot next to it. The seventh, and last, location is for University Place 2 residents and is located around the corner of the road leading to University Place 1 and University Place 2's Dumpster.

Graphic by Hannah Fulton

Smoking areas wanted

Student voices his opinion: NSU should have designated smoking areas for smokers

JACOB FARNSLEY
Staff Writer

"Smoking is bad for you!"

"Smoking can kill you!"

"You're basically cutting your lifespan in half!"

These are things I hear all the time. As a cigarette smoker and proud vaper, people comment on my so-called "nasty" habit often. I get it. But you don't smoke, so don't criticize me for it. I don't want to light this cigarette anymore than you want me too, but I have an addiction. An addiction that is not easy to kick, whatsoever.

In Aug. 2014, NSU's campuses became smoke free. This changed things for the students in multiple ways, some good, some bad. While I understand why they did it, what about the students who do smoke? We are just expected to leave campus entirely every time we smoke.

That right there is the one thing that I do not understand. I do not have a car and would have to walk all the way off-campus. During the day, I do not mind this at all. At night, however, that is an entirely different story. I am expected to walk across campus at night, possibly by myself, just to smoke a cigarette.

I personally do not want to walk all the way off campus at 1 a.m. just to smoke a joe. A number of things could happen. I could get hit by a car, murdered, robbed or kidnapped. If NSU preaches about its students' safety, what about mine? Is mine less important just because of my "nasty" habit?

I don't want NSU's campus to become completely smoke friendly, I would just like a safe place to go smoke my cigarettes at night. That's where these designated smoking areas come into play.

Myself and a staff photographer went around campus to see if there would be any good locations for these proposed designated smoking areas. Low and behold, we found plenty. We mainly targeted these smoking areas to be near high-traffic sections of campus, yet far enough away that it wouldn't affect people who don't smoke.

These smoking areas could also help reduce the already abundant amount of cigarette butts around campus. If these smoking areas just include an ashtray that is cleaned often and a few benches, the number of cigarette butts would be reduced exponentially.

These things are not hard to obtain, nor would they be overly expensive. Putting these around campus could not only help clean up the campus, but also could reduce the risk to people who have to walk off-campus to smoke at night, while bringing smokers closer together. Who doesn't want new friends?

I won't lie. At night, I stand right outside of my apartment and light up. However, I usually make sure that no one is walking by. I want to respect people who don't smoke, so if you give me a place to smoke that is not all the way off campus, I wouldn't have a problem going to it. I think other smokers will feel the same.

Cultural appreciation allows student growth

Diverse learning opportunities widened Senior Manney Bustos' perspective of other cultures and languages



"Through my friends, I was able to recognize myself, my differences, at times my privileges, to come to appreciate and learn from their experiences."

Manney Bustos

MEG DENNY
News Editor

Senior Manney Bustos compares reading Tarot cards to cutting hair. The reader cannot read their own cards, Bustos emphasized, so the process must involve a connection between two people.

Tarot readings became an interest for Bustos when he studied abroad in England for a semester. A student from the Dominican Republic introduced them to Bustos; the student's ancestors had previously practiced Voodoo.

Bustos began practicing his freshmen year, when former NSU student Marquez Wilson, an experienced reader, offered to teach him.

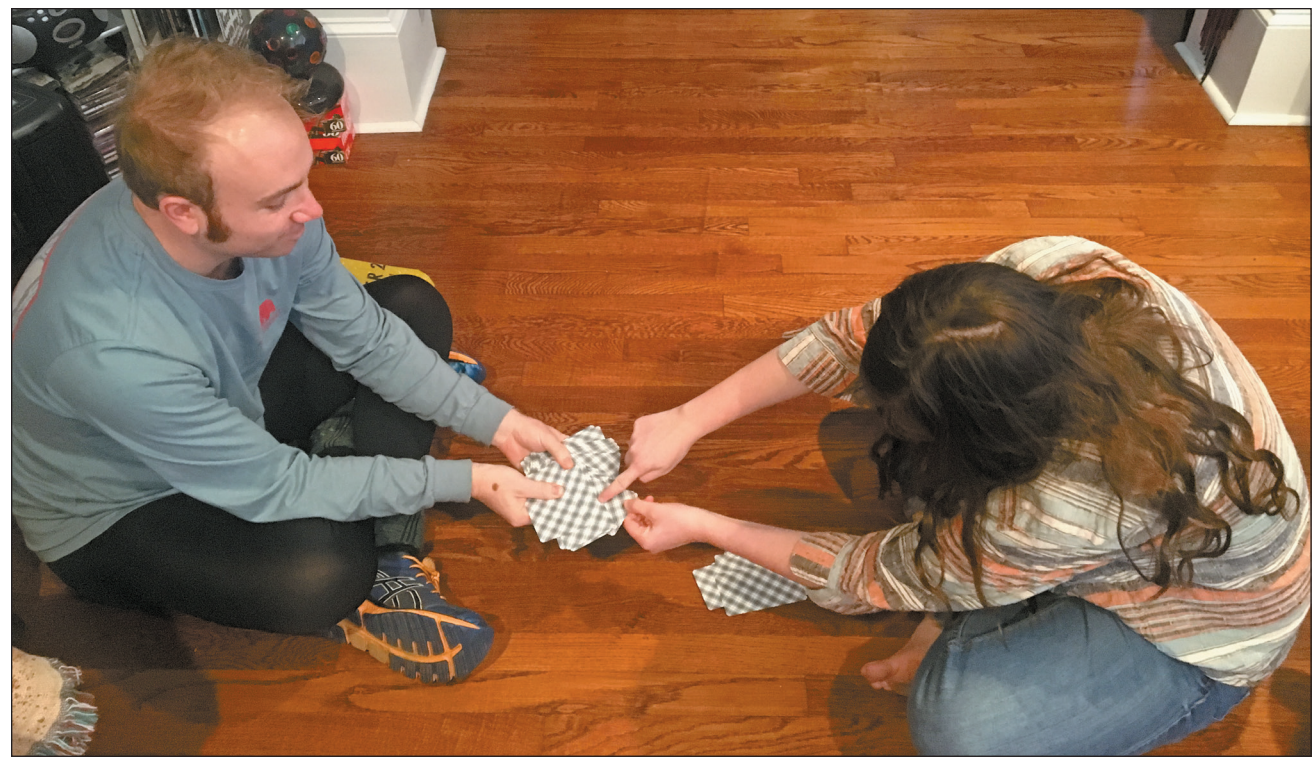
The liberal arts major takes a proactive approach to exploring different cultures. Bustos also holds a concentration in foreign languages in order to grow in his understanding of humanity. "Diversity enriches; it widens perspective and enhances creativity," Bustos said. "I'm drawn to learning about other cultures because difference is a learning opportunity."

Throughout his years at NSU, Bustos has studied Russian, Latin and French. In high school, he took French and Spanish classes. Bustos finds that his skill in foreign languages has greatly improved his English and grammar, but he stressed that an increase in the ability to connect with people is the most important benefit.

"Most of my friends in high school were from other countries, or had parents who came from other countries," Bustos said. "Through my friends, I was able to recognize myself, my differences, at times my privileges, to come to appreciate and learn from their experiences."

Bustos' hometown is Lubbock, Texas, where his father from Argentina and mother from Louisiana currently reside. He comes from a Mormon family, but no longer practices the Mormon religion. Instead, he remains open-minded to any religions and cultures he comes across and strives for an appreciation of differences.

In the fall, Bustos will attend the University of Arizona to obtain his masters in Francophone studies. His studies will include languages of Caribbean countries, Northern Africa, Vietnam and other regions colonized by the French.



Meg Denny selects ten cards from Bustos so he can perform a Celtic Cross reading. *Photos by Airrol Angelle*

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THE CURRENTSAUCE

Wednesday, April 13, 2016

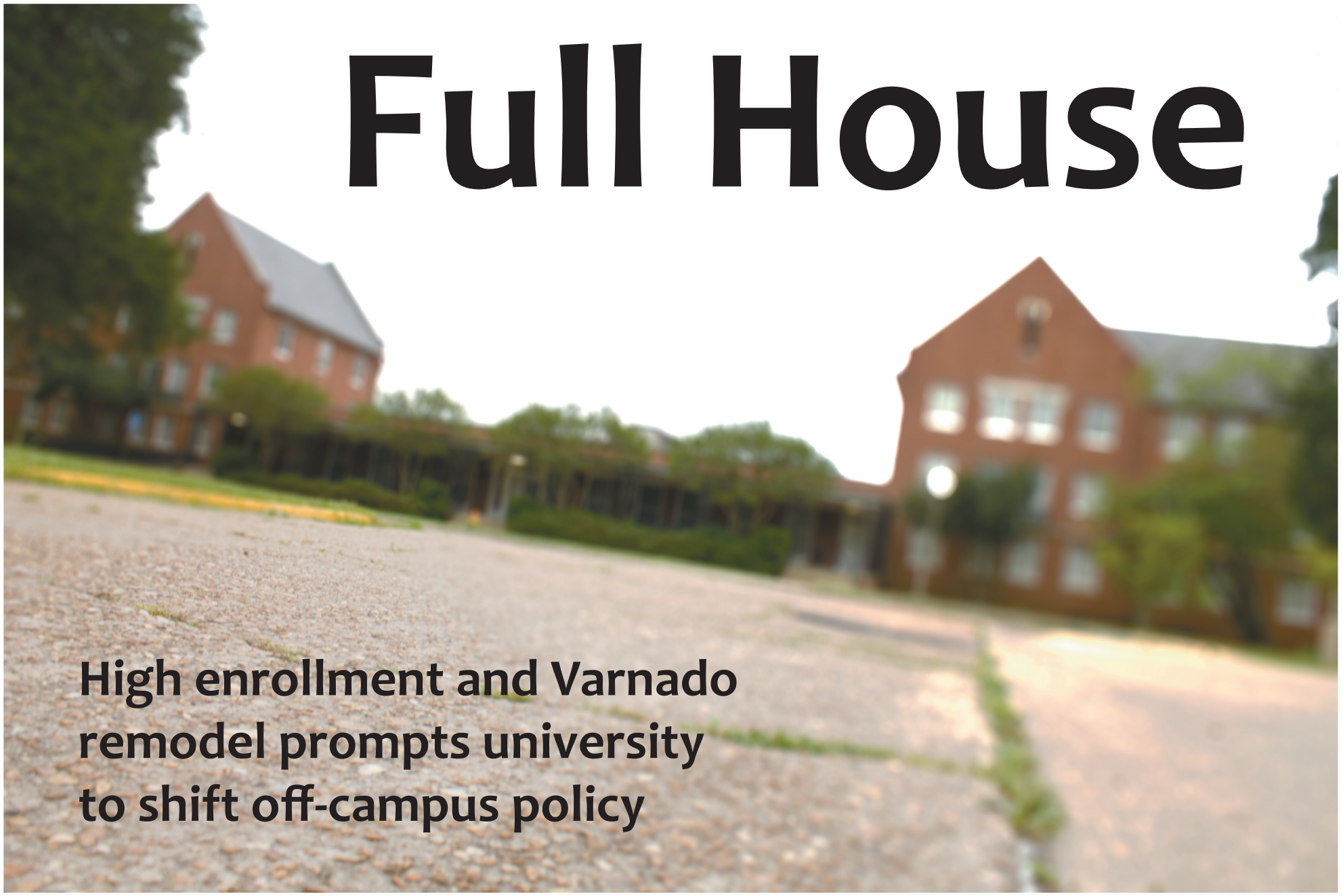
Volume: 101 Issue: 24

NEWS | Page 6 &7

Photos capture international festival and campus opera

LIFE | Page 5

Senior describes life after upgrading to smartphone for the first time



Full House

High enrollment and Varnado remodel prompts university to shift off-campus policy

Varnado Hall will close temporarly this fall semester for a complete remodel, signficantly lowering dorm capacity on campus at a time when enrollment is again on the rise.

Photos by Steven Sheerin

DAMIAN GLOVER & EMILY FONTENOT
Staff Writer & Editor-in-Chief

In order to live off campus, students were in the past required to submit extensive documentation and gain committee approval. Now, the process looks much different. With the enrollment significantly on the rise for fall semester, campus housing is changing its tune and actively encouraging students to take the off campus route.

Sunday, for the first time ever, the university held an off-campus housing fair that gave around 200 students in attendance the opportunity to interact with local property owners. The push toward alternative housing is also in part driven by the fact that Varnado Hall will no longer be able to house the overflow from University Place 1 and 2 and Columns fall semester due to extensive renovations set to bring the aging building up to code.

Vice president of student government association, Chantasia Grasty, believes that moving off campus will not only leave more room for future Demons on campus, but also give upperclassman the chance to live independently.

"Once students reach their junior or senior year of college, they are looking for ways to grow and one of those ways is living on their own and of course having more space," Grasty said. "Living off campus in an environment they control allows them to do those things."

Vice President of Student Experience Dr. Chris Maggio believes that Sunday's event effectively helped bring those in need of housing and those in need of tenants together. Every spring, upperclassmen are looking to get out of their lease in order to have their own space and save a little money, and this enabled them to review all their options in a one-stop-shop style event.

> **"Once students reach their junior or senior year of college, they are looking for ways to grow... Living off campus in an environment they control allows them to do those things."**
> *- SGA Vice President Chantasia Grasty*

Providing this service to students now falls within university interests, paving the way for a more seamless transition to independent life for upperclassman after they experience all the quirks of dorm life.

New student media leaders announced

Ashleigh Daniels

Potpourri


Photo by Kara Scouten

What made you want to be yearbook editor this year?
I was really envious of the student media leaders' relationship, and I wanted to be a part of that kind of family. But I also just really have a passion for bringing students good media, and I feel that media is really important to a college campus. I would like to keep student media going in the motion it has been this year.

And how would you describe that motion?
I would like to continue to increase our online presence… I would also like to host fun things like having T-shirt drawings and pairing up with the Current Sauce, KNWD and Argus for different events. I'd also like to bring multimedia into yearbook with video clips and short little blurbs and maybe even some sneak peaks of the yearbook that will be shared online. I want to make the yearbook more modernized than it has been in the past.

What do you feel the yearbook has to offer that other media platforms don't?
Yearbooks are an artistic project, but also an historical project. We are not just making a work of art. We are making a historical document that students are going to be able to look back. To be a part of a long line of historical documents that students in the future will access to find out how we lived is really important to me.

Maggie Harris

Argus Literary Magazine

How did you get involved in student media?
My dad was actually the Argust editor in chief back in 1990, and he has told me for years about his "glory days" as the editor for Argus. The second week of school as a freshman I saw an email about Argus looking for editors...so I put on the business dress and got out the heels I could barely walk in, and I walked very awkwardly in and had my interview...[The editor] actually told me that she created a position for me... which was such an honor for me. It was a long shot, but I got the job. I was an associate editor for a year, and I was editor in chief for a year.


Photo Submited by Harris

What are you most excited about for Argust next year?
I really wanna see more students on campus submitting...Argus is such a fantastic publication. There is no other publication that represents so many students' perspectives...When you look through Argus, you see 40 years of students' perspective. And you can see what students were passionate about, what they were taking pictures of, what were they writing poems about. And in some cases it's the same things that we're writing about and taking pictures of today...We're writing poems about heartbreak or rebirth or coming to new conclusions about ourselves. But you also see the politics of the university or the world at the time...I think it's so important to the university to have that creative spirit represented, and that spirit comes from all students and in every department.

Courtney Paige

KNWD

What's your primary goal as the new general manager?
I really want to keep this momentum going. I want to make more events that students can get excited about and look forward to weeks in advance. I also want to make sure we reach out and do things with students and other student media.


Photo Submitted by Paige

With all the new media platforms available today, how do you avoid becoming white noise?
I feel like if we do a happy mix of social media and actual flyers and do a whole lot of liners and actually go talk to people face- to-face — any way the students can be involved — I feel it will help out a lot.

How would you describe the music that KNWD offers students?
I don't think we're a one-genre station. We may be listed as rock here or pop there, but since I've been here we've gone from playing indie and alt rock to playing 10-15 different genres… We have a staff playlist that shows how eclectic we are coming out soon… It should show students that KNWD is not just one like-minded thing and that we're not biased at all. We just need to get the word out that we're here for them and whatever they want to hear.

Ashley Wolf

Current Sauce


Photo by Alec Horton

How did you get involved in student media?
My first two years I was involved more in theater, but I didn't really feel like it was a good fit for me. Although I liked performing, I felt voiceless. I didn't want to be the one doing the choreography. I wanted to be the one making the choreography. I felt like our editors encouraged creativity, and I really started feeling like I had a voice and became a lot happier. I remember as a kid making these mini-magazines with my best friend at like 8 or 9. I've always been really interested in books and things I could hold. This year I felt that I was returning to myself in this way, giving myself a voice, and then pushing myself with something that I guess has always been inside me. Everybody has a way to create, and this is the way I create. Once I realized that, I just started going hardcore with it.

What can students look forward to next year?
We're going to work on making content to fill the needs of our audience. We're going to have more content online, so we need lots of writers — (hint hint) — lots of photographers and designers and videographers. We're going to add more multimedia to stories, because I find that a lot of people don't want to pick up a paper and read it. That's not how people get their news anymore. I find that since we're now linking articles on Facebook, people are reading because it's more accessible… We have news that you can't get anywhere else. We want students to really engage with us and give us ideas about what they want to read.

NSU Nursing ranked 30th in country

SAVANNAH BASSETT
Staff Writer

NSU's Master of Science in Nursing program was the first master's program in nursing offered in Louisiana, and now the investment has paid off. The MSN program was recently ranked as one of the best in the country by Top Master's in Healthcare Administration. Out of all Louisiana programs, only NSU's was listed in the ranking.

The Current Sauce sat down with Dr. Connie Hale, an NSU alumna and an associate professor at the nursing education center in Shreveport, to talk about the progress the nursing depart has seen and expects to see with this ranking.



Nursing program ranks above all other Louisiana schools as one of the top programs in the nation in recent study. Photo by Simone Major

Q: How do you think that this recent honor will affect the program in the long run?

A: Our program has been growing for a lot of different reasons, like a huge need for nurse practitioners, which is a major focus in our program. I think that it will put NSU's name out there and make it a household name. Hopefully, that will cause others to hear the accolades and make us more desirable. We have students throughout the state, and this achievement could further show other students that they have other options elsewhere. This honor shows stakeholders, employees, students and anybody associated with healthcare that we have an accomplished program. We know from traveling and hearing from employers that they want NSU students. The preceptors will tell us that our students are different.

Q: What do you think makes NSU's nursing program stand out from other institutions?

A: I think there are several things. The quality of faculty and dedication to our students is one. We are very much invested in their success. The support from the university and the community makes us stand out from other institutions, also. Lastly, we offer an affordable quality education and that's important.

Q: What influenced your choice to become involved with the nursing program?

A: There are so many. I received both my BSN and MSN from NSU. It's one of those professions that it is either what you really want to do, or not. It was also important to me to come back and teach. For me, it was the way that I realized I could impact the students that drove me to teach. The impact that the students have on the patients is like a ripple effect. Ultimately, I loved the challenge and getting student feedback and constantly adjusting.

SGA minutes

Monday, April 11

•The guideline committee changed the rules of the Student Concerns Page. The updated guidelines will be posted on the Facebook page soon.

• The SGA Banquet will be held on April 25, location TBA. The occasion is invite only.

•SGA is hosting a Midnight Breakfast on April 28th at the Iberville Cafe.

• Alpha Epsilon Delta received a $1,100 grant from SGA for a mission trip to Belize to administer Myan children with fluoride treatments. 17 students and 1 advisor will be going on the mission trip.

Police Blotter

April 5
Hit and run
Columns Parking Lot
Ongoing

Vehice blocking way
CAPA
Citation Issued

April 7
Drug violation
UP 2
Ongoing investigation

April 8
Disturbance
Columns
Ongoing investigation

Hit and run
Williamson Parking Lot
Ongoing investigation

April 11
Phone theft
Health and PE Majors
Ongoing

Vehicle accident
Coulumns Parking Lot
Closed

Bicycle theft
Caddo Hall
Ongoing investigation

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 14
History and Benefits:
Space Exploration
112 Williamson Hall, 1 p.m.

April 14
Spring Read
Hanchey Gallery, 7 p.m.

April 15
Cane River Reading Series
Cane River Room, 6 p.m.

April 17
NSU Jazz Orchestra
Magale Recital Hall, 3 p.m.

April 20-23
NSU Theatre and Dance
perform "Oklahoma"
A.A. Fredericks Auditorium,
7:30 p.m., 2 p.m. (23rd)

April 21
HIV & STI Testing
Kyser Bricks, between Kyser
and Williamson Hall, 9 a.m.

April 22-23
DemonFest 2016
Iberville Green,



Want a sign? Check your zodiac

Opinions Editor, An-gel Samuel, interviewed students to figure out if their sun signs matched their personalities. Someone can also have a rising sign and a moon sign. Combining the traits of these signs helps showcase a more complete personality. For the zodiac stereotypes visit www.currentsaucenews.com or see last week's printed issue.

Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

Freshman Korynthia Johnson, nursing major said, "I agree with this because I do this all the time. I'll hang out with you, but sometimes I need time to myself just to get a grip of things and get stuff together.

Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20

Freshman Dasia Caldwell said, "I guess it's true because sometimes if I see something in real life, I put myself in a world where I don't have to deal with it."

Aries
March 21 - April 20

Freshman Alyssia Pittmon, culinary arts major, said, "This is true. Being an Aries, if I am in a good mood I tend to talk to those around me about all the exciting things that are going on in my life. I'm also very interested to hear the things they have to talk about as long as it's a mutual feeling."

Taurus
April 21 - May 21

Freshman Ariel Martin, psychology major said, "That's very true because although a small percentage of the time I am wrong a majority of the time I'm right and no one can tell me otherwise and sometimes I don't get along with other strong characters because I have a leader mentality."

Gemini
May 22 - June 21

Sophomore Taylor Henderson, criminal justice major said, "I agree, I feel like Gemini's are very clever and we think on our toes. We also have a way with communication seeing as how we have many sides."

Cancer
June 22 - July 12

Sophomore Janson Chisley, biology major said, "Yes, this is true because this is how I am and it describes me perfectly."

Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23

Sophomore Shania Dauterive, communications major said "Well I have heard that a lot but I'll put it this way. I'm a social butterfly and I love talking to people and getting my face out there because I'm always testing my comfort zone."

Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

Freshman Paige Ware, business major said "yes this is true because we are always calm on the outside but we don't want people to know how nervous we are on the inside."

Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

Freshman La'Jessica Watkins, nursing major said "Yes that is true because I am always putting my self in peoples shoes and giving them advice about what I would do in that situation."

Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Freshman Sha'Diamond Douglas, business major said "Yes this is true because if you give us the power we will use it to our advantage."

Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 22

Senior Zhaquan Porter, psychology major said "yes I agree with it because I have always been guided by luck. I have been through obstacles in my life especially in college and yet somehow things always turn out okay. Staying positive and hopeful is they key to a good life."

Capricorn
Dec. 23 - Jan. 19

Sophomore Destinie White, communications major said "I agree with this. I know for myself there is always a goal I am trying to reach whether academically, socially, or financially. I am always motivated to achieve that goal. I am so afraid to fail and let myself down."

'Fun, lip-syncing and queens sexier than RuPaul herself'

Sigma Alpha Iota presents their third annual drag show

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

Nine boys will dress in drag for one night to compete against each other for Sigma Alpha Iota's annual Lady of the Night drag competition.

On Thursday at 7:30 p.m. in the Bill Brent Band Hall, these nine boys will go head to head, in full drag. Social/Sisterhood Co-Chair for Sigma Alpha Iota, Hannah Morris, is in charge of this year's event. The event is $3 and baked goods will be on sale before the event starts.

Freshman secondary education major and competitor Caleb Parker (Ivy Love) said that what he was most nervous about wasn't wearing the new clothes.

"The hardest part of doing this competition is not messing up my talent," Parker said. "There will be a judge there that is on color guard, and if my technique is off, that judge will definitely clock me for it."



Lady of the Night competitors from left to right: Eric Pannell II as L.T. Quanda, Aaron Martin as Anita Richards , Dean L. Mayeux as Lisa Tarine, Will Faubion as Squah Da Goals, Caleb Parker as Ivy Love, Ross Arabie as Ida Slapter, J.J. Battles as Booty Pepples and Bryce C. Tucker Tequila Mocking Jay. Not pictured: Dane Rushing as Dixie D. Dazzle.*Photo by Alec Horton*

Put on your heels, beat your face for the gods and come join us for a night full of fun, lip-syncing and queen's sexier than RuPaul herself.

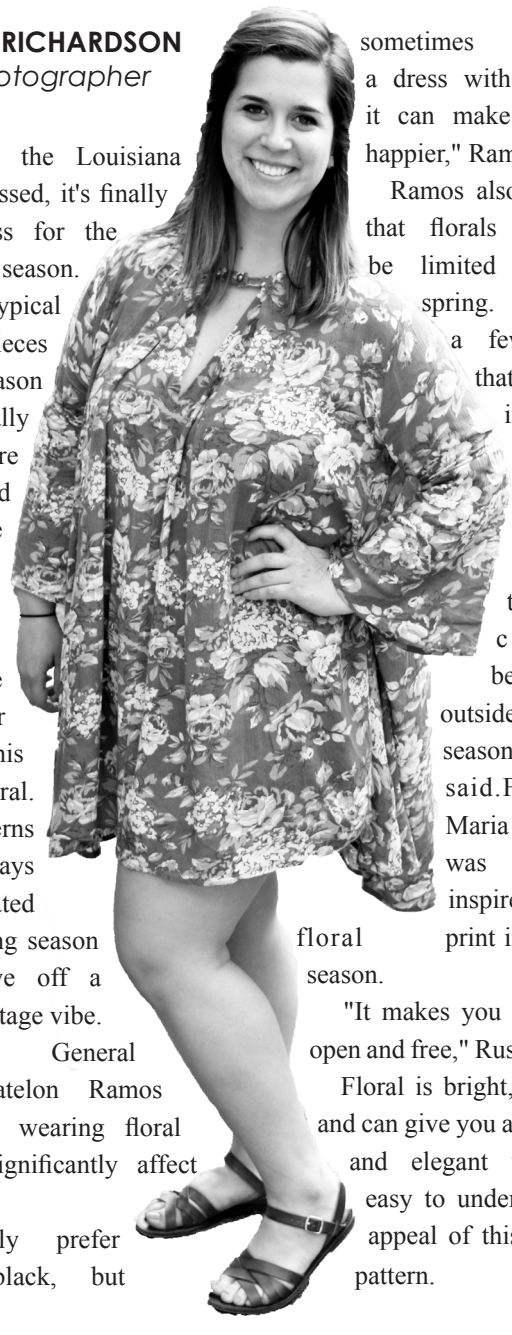
Demon Style: ‘Florals? In Spring?’



(Above) Meryl Streep as Miranda Priestly in ‘The Devil Wears Prada’ (2006). *Photo from Creative Commons*

(Below) Senior Katelon Ramos taking a break from her normal black wear for something a bit lighter. *Photo by Hannah Richardson*

HANNAH RICHARDSON
Staff Photographer



Now that the Louisiana winter has passed, it's finally time to dress for the warm spring season. Though the typical Louisiana pieces for this season — and basically all year — are shorts and tees, it's nice to switch it up once in a while. One of the most popular patterns for this season is floral. Floral patterns have always been associated with the spring season and can give off a charming, vintage vibe.

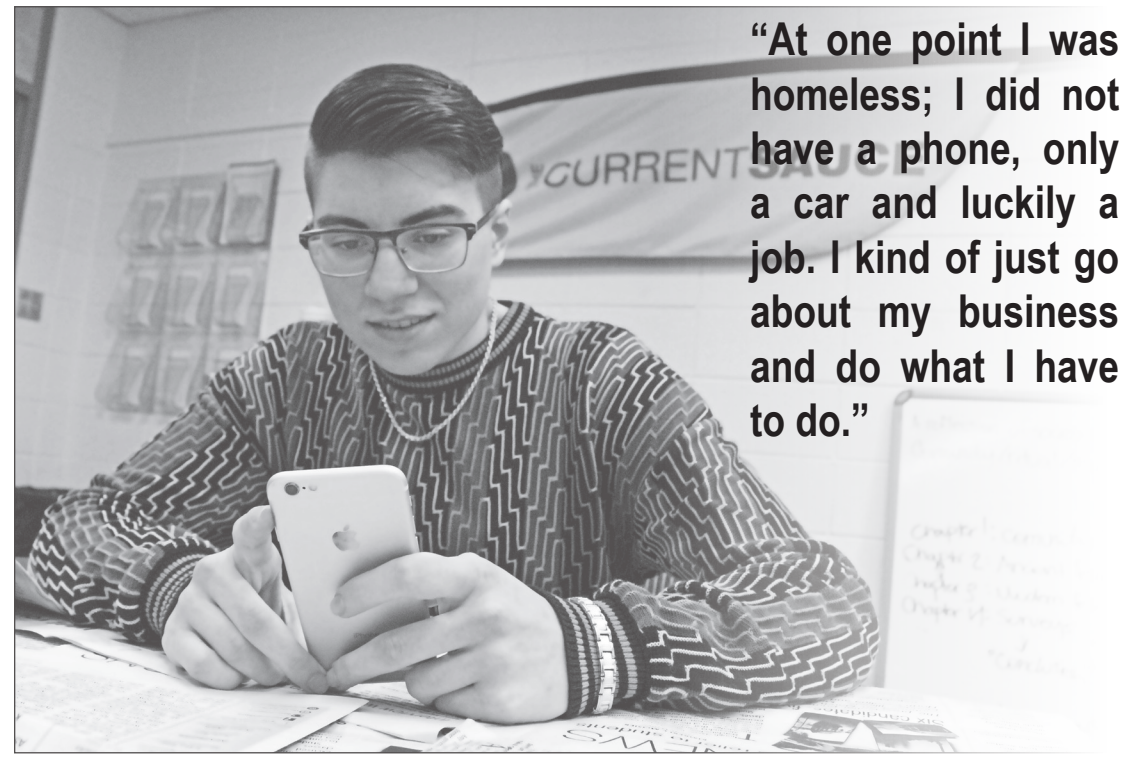
KNWD General Manager Katelon Ramos believes that wearing floral prints can significantly affect your mood.

"I usually prefer to wear black, but sometimes wearing a dress with color in it can make me feel happier," Ramos said.

Ramos also believes that florals shouldn't be limited to only spring. "I have a few things that I wear in the fall that are a different type of floral, so they really could be worn outside of this season," she said.Freshman Maria Rushing was also inspired to wear floral print in the new season.

"It makes you feel more open and free," Rushing said.

Floral is bright, cheerful, and can give you a confident and elegant vibe. It's easy to understand the appeal of this timeless pattern.



Airrol Angelle plays with his new, gold iPhone 6. Though it was never a priority for him, he understands the importance of it for both his personal and professional life. Angelle says that, so far, Instagram and Snapchat “live up to the hype millennials have placed on them.” *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Airrol gets an iPhone

Years after technology revolution began, student finally joins

JOSHUA FONTENOT
Staff Writer

In 2016, many young people cannot imagine life without their smartphones. Truth is, most have never had to. They have grown up in a time of constant technological advancement and, thus, become dependent on having those little glowing genies in their pockets night and day.

Airrol Angelle is the exception to this rule. Angelle, a senior at NSU's Louisiana Scholar's College, just received his first smartphone in March.

Though he has witnessed the smartphone epidemic from the outside, Angelle believes he will be the exception.

He believes he is too active to just sit around and stare at a phone screen for extended periods of time, whereas others have been conditioned to need these prolonged periods of screen time.

"With phones, you get addicted to a screen and having the world at your fingertips," explained Angelle. He recognized the benefit of having this option to communicate without being face to face.

"I believe it also allows people to be alone without necessarily feeling lonely," he said.

Many have asked him, "How did you survive?" To that, Angelle replies that he did so with ease.

"At one point I was homeless; I did not have a phone, only a car and luckily a job," he said. "I kind of just go about my business and do what I have to do."

He has noticed that many of his peers don't think twice about watching what others are doing on social media constantly. They see it in status updates, Instagram posts and even Snapchats. But he says these habits still seem foreign and unnatural to him.

"In a way, I feel like I'm being spied on," Angelle said. "People used to be oblivious to where I was and what I was doing, but now people think I'm dead if I'm not constantly updating."

Angelle has already gotten into the swing of Instagram and Snapchat and says they definitely live up to the hype millennials have placed on them.

"I took a picture of a flower for Instagram and felt like a photographer," he laughed.

Despite his reluctancy to hand over his independence in exchange for his new smartphone's many perks, the newly adapted Apple user did admit that having a smartphone has made some activities much simpler and believes it will only continue to benefit him in the future.



Morgan Lasyone, Demmi Bell O'Donnell and Jenna Baldwin perform the can-can at the French booth.

All photos by Steven Sheerin



Culinary art student Terrian Marchand joins fellow HMT students in the chicken dance at the German booth.

Bringing the world to Natchitoches

STEVEN SHEERIN
Staff Photographer

Front Street transformed into a melting pot of culture on Tuesday with the International Festival of Cultures and Cuisines.

Hospitality Management & Tourism and Culinary Art students collaborated for an event with activities, cuisines and wines that represent multiple cultures at each booth. Attendees traveled across the world with activities such as camel races & Henna tattoos in Morocco to a Sing-a-long with the Beatles in England.

The students in the tourism courses were the ones who planned, coordinated, painted the backdrops and chose the costumes that were essential for the operation of it all.

"It was a fun to be on the receiving end of the festival this year," said senior Kayla Logue. "I was involved in the festival two years ago and it is exciting to see the hard work done by my peers for this festival."

The culinary art students cooked and managed the food, serving international delicacies from bratwurst and pretzels in Germany to sheik stew in Morocco.

The festival brought more diversity to Front Street than is usual, but freshman Tori Mato says the festival could do more.

"Everyone has tried Italian food before," says freshman Tori Mato. "How about including more exotic countries. We have international students from Columbia and I think they would like to represent in the festival."



International students Miku Takahashi, Kaneko Terachi and NSU student Laura Saucier instruct children in folding paper fans.

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NSU Opera performs 'The Magic Flute'



The infamous Queen of the Night is played by graduate student Juliana Handy. Her costume was modeled after Bowser from the Mario Brother games, while Pamina's outfit is based on Princess Peach. *All photos by Bonny Bacoccini*



Papageno's character (Tyler Price) motives consist of trying to find a girlfriend. He wants to find his own Papagena and eventually finds this in Panima (Leanny Munoz).

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

The Northwestern Opera Theater Ensemble performed Mozart's "The Magic Flute" this week, making one of the most popular operas in the U.S. apart of their first year as an ensemble.

Senior Leanny Munoz played the role of Panima, the female lead. Not only a vocalist, Munoz studies opera literature and is a liberal arts major in the Louisiana Scholars' College.

Performing as Panima allowed her to expand her educational experience, as her undergraduate thesis focuses on characters in opera from the Enlightenment into late Romanticism.

Part of Munoz's educational experience included wearing a corset under her gown, a tradition that is standard for women in opera. Although the corset makes it harder to breathe, Munoz stated that it helped her use proper vocal techniques.

Although Munoz is a seasoned vocalist, this was her first theatrical perfomance.

"It's been fun, stressful and nerve-wrecking," Munoz said. "But it's also been very fulfilling to do an opera."





The spirits are played by Rosa Campbell, Rachael Bryant and Crystal Dunning. They have no speaking parts, but instead, sing all of their lines. Bryant stressed the importance of classical music in her life: "It can make you feel things you didn't know you could feel."

Final battle for play-off seat begins



Borbora Kollarova prepares to serve in her single match against Lamar on April 29 at the Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex.

Photo by Clarisse Gaucel

CASSANDRA BRISCOE
Copy Editor

The 2016 regular season will come to a close this weekend as the Lady Demons take on Lamar and Sam Houston State in a final attempt to secure a spot in post-season play.

"It was important for us to get on a winning streak before the tournament," senior Natalya Krutova said. "It boosts our confidence and also puts pressure on our opponents."

For the last four years, the Lady Demons have dominated the Southland Conference. They have won the regular season and made two NCAA first-round appearances. But this year has been shaky as NSU sits in eighth place in the standings. Granted, they are tied with four other schools that have the same record of 5-4.

The team to beat this year is Texas A&M – Corpus Christi, who are common opponents for NSU. Corpus Christi defeated the Lady Demons in 2014, taking the Southland Conference trophy as well as the automatic bid into the NCAA Tournament. Last year, NSU responded by winning in the same fashion.

Corpus Christi is currently undefeated this season, with a record of 8-0 in Southland play and 17-0 overall.

Eight teams make it to the Southland Conference tournament, which will commence April 22 in Nacogdoches, Texas. NSU currently sits in the final spot. However, Abilene Christian is still ineligible for postseason play, giving up their second seed.

Two wins for the team this weekend will give them a shot at the tournament title and a decent position, considering the number eight seed will have to take on the undefeated Islanders.

Natalya Krutova, the only senior on the roster, will be leaving behind a legacy. Since her freshman year, she has won many awards for both athletic and academic achievement.

Athletically, Krutova will be remembered for her work ethic and winning mentality on the court. In her last three seasons, she has seen two Southland Conference trophies and one regular season title and has made two NCAA appearances. On top of team awards, she will leave NSU with too many individual awards to count, with recognition by the Southland Conference, the state of Louisiana and the nation.

Academically, she will graduate with a perfect 4.0 GPA. Krutova is majoring in biology with a concentration in biomedical science. After graduation, she hopes to attend medical school with ambitions of becoming an orthopedic surgeon.

As a senior, Krutova has her eyes on one last tournament trophy to cap off her stellar career.

With two crucial games this weekend, it is important for fans to get out to the Jack Fisher Lady Demon Complex to cheer on the Lady Demons to victories. Both matches will begin at 11 a.m.

Women's soccer team fights for equal pay and benefits

CASSANDRA BRISCOE
Copy Editor

The U.S. Women's National Team (USWNT) filed a complaint against the Soccer Federation, arguing that players of the women's team are paid significantly less than players of the men's team.

Five team members have stepped up and spoken about the issue. Members include Captain and World Cup MVP Carli Lloyd, along with Hope Solo, Alex Morgan, Megan Rapinoe and Becky Sauerbrunn.

Although the media focuses on these five players, other members of the team have taken to social media to show their support and fight against wage discrimination.

In the summer of 2015, the U.S. women's soccer team won their first World Cup title since 1999. This trophy was the third time the USWNT received a gold medal at the tournament.

On the other hand, the men's team has competed in the World Cup since the earliest tournament in 1930 and have not once been successful in bringing the trophy home.

According to ESPN, the 2015 financial report says that female players are paid about a quarter of what men earn. The women's team, however, generated almost $20 million more in revenue than the men's team.

Another thing to consider is popularity. Viewership for the women's World Cup final match featuring Japan and USA shattered viewership records.

This single game is known as the most watched soccer game in U.S. history, totaling around 26.67 million viewers. On top of making history, the women also took home the most prestigious trophy a soccer team can receive. After dominating 5-2, the USWNT were all smiles. However, the bonus they received for winning paled in comparison to the men's pay.

The men's soccer team received $9 million when they were eliminated in Round 16 of the World Cup in Brazil, according to FOX Soccer reports. The women's team received only $2 million for winning the World Cup in prize payouts from FIFA.

Other aspects of gender inequality in soccer are actually improving. For the first time in history, a woman was included on the cover, as well as in the video game, of FIFA 16. The universal disc cover features Alex Morgan, USWNT striker and one of the five players speaking out against the federation.

Though a career in sports isn't just about the money, these players deserve respect for giving their lives to a sport just like the men, who can retire after a couple seasons.

When you play at the highest level as these wome do, it becomes a career. With this type of job, you don't have weekends off. You are constantly strengthening your body and pushing yourself to mental breaking points.

Although men can easily make a living playing soccer, it isn't as easy for the women. Most of them have to have jobs on top of their training schedules.

The women's team have statistically increased the popularity of soccer as a sport in a country where football is the main game. They deserve to be treated and paid as equals.

Demons fall 2-1 to Southeastern Lions

REGINALD WILLIAMS
Staff Writer



The Demons break their losing streak and win the final game of the series against Southeastern. *Photos by Shelia Humphrey*

Over the weekend, the Demon baseball team battled the Lions of Southeastern here in Natchitoches for a three-game conference series, falling short of the win 2-1. The Demons started with a close loss, 2-1, in a pitcher's dual between NSU ace Adam Oller and the Lions' Kyle Cedotal.

"We had first and second, we pop up to third base and don't get a run... You've got a chance against a [pitcher] like that and a team like that, you've got to take advantage, because you don't get many of them," head coach Lane Burroughs said of Friday's game.

The Demons committed a pair of errors in the ninth inning, giving Southeastern an unearned run that proved to be the difference maker in the game. In the second match up Saturday afternoon, the Demons came out flat against the Lions, giving up eight runs before putting together a multi-run inning to power back. It ultimately wasn't enough, however, as NSU fell short to Southeastern 8-5.

"We're kind of in a pit right now," Coach Burroughs said. "We're in a storm. We haven't played well in a while. We've got to figure it out. A combination of things like walks, hitting batters and errors proved to be costly to the Demons and helped contribute to a five-run in the fourth inning for Southeastern."

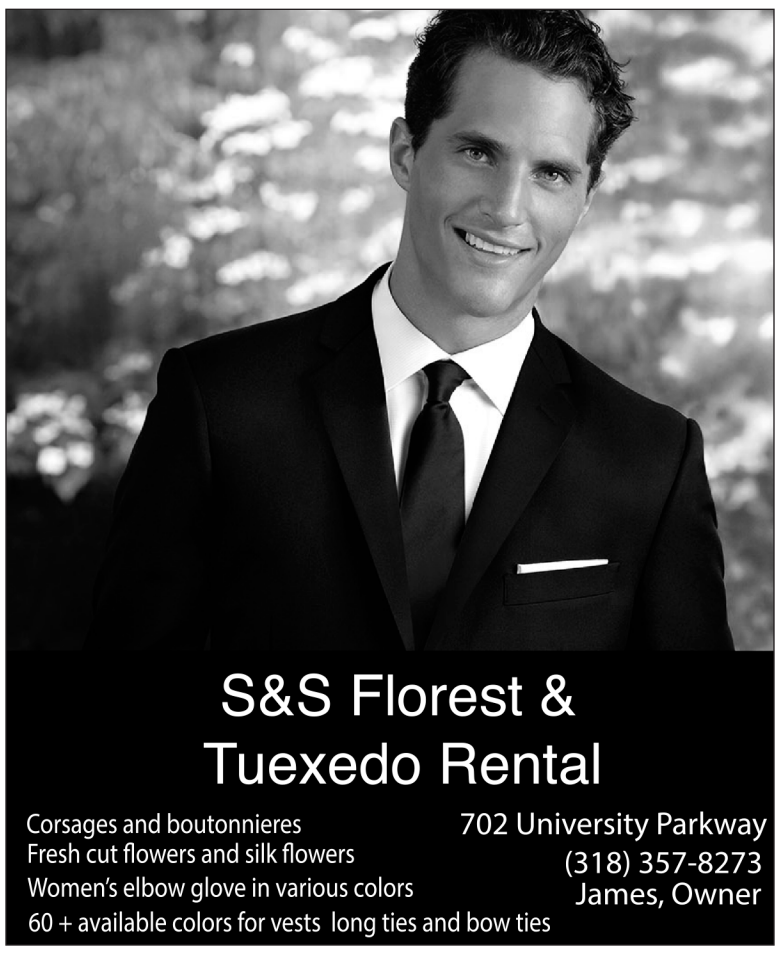
Burroughs said that the team seems to be in a mental slump. He said he's struggling to give them the confidence to push past it.

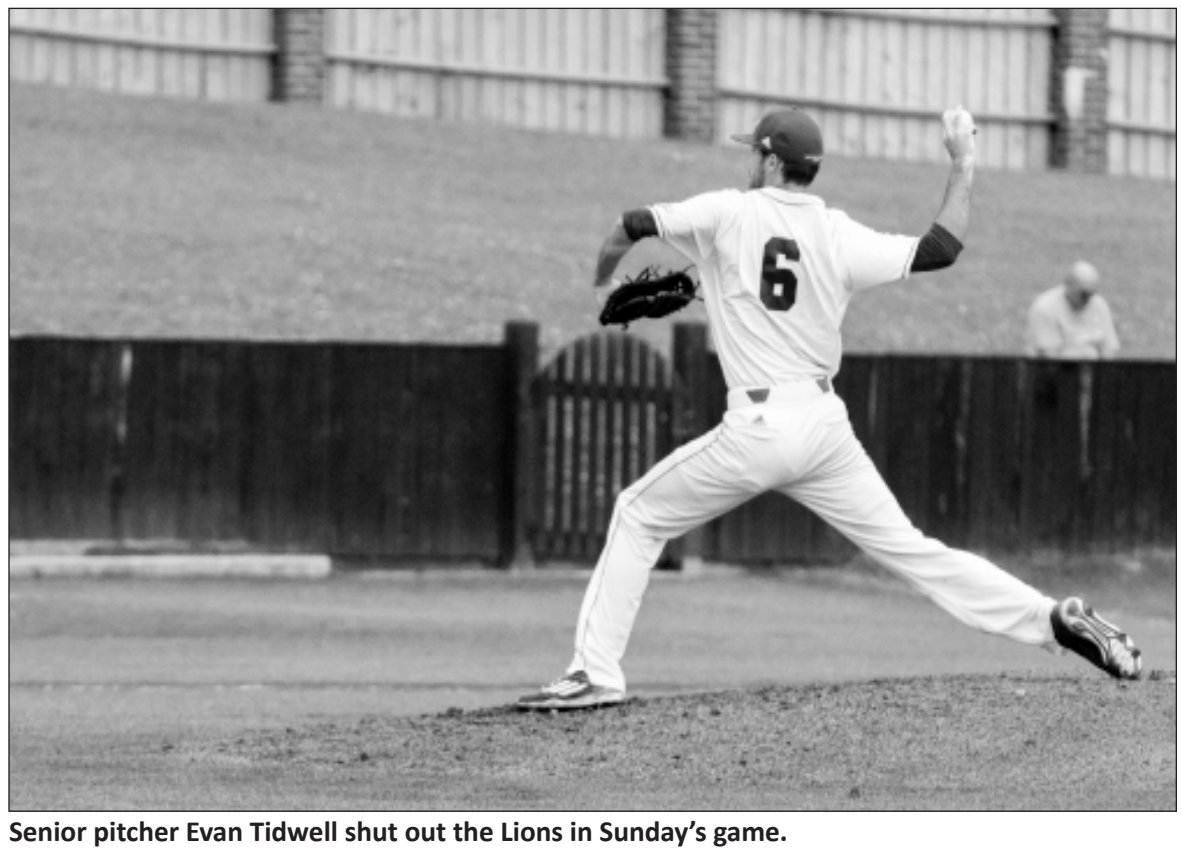
"I'm a baseball coach, not a psychiatrist — we've got to get through it," he said. "I'm not taking anything away from Southeastern. They're a really good team. I just know we're not doing what we're capable of doing right now."

Much to their credit, the Demons avoided being swept in a home series by beating Southeastern in the final game in a close 3-2 matchup. The Demon victory can be attributed to solid pitching and defense.

With two outs in the ninth and a game-tying run on second base, NSU first baseman Cort Brinson lunged to his right and made a backhanded stab of Southeastern's Sam Roberson's ground ball to secure the win.

Winning the final game of the series broke NSU's three-game losing streak and gave them some much-needed momentum. The Demons hit the road for another tough game against the Privateers of the University of New Orleans Friday, April 15, at 6:30 p.m. in New Orleans.

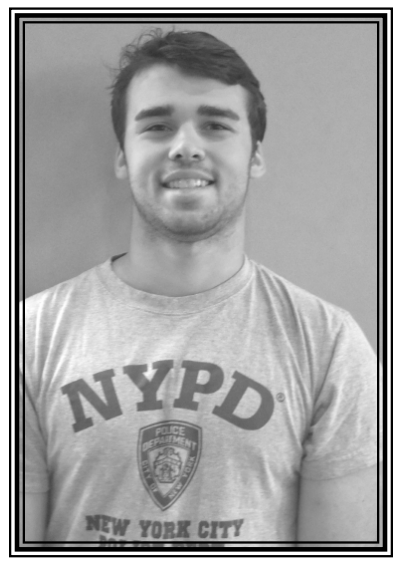




Senior pitcher Evan Tidwell shut out the Lions in Sunday's game.

NS 'U' Voice

How do you keep yourself motivated for the last few weeks of the semester?

Kyle Bryant	Martin Gould	Carolyn Parker	Matt Heyse	Rylea Sepulvado
				
Sophmore **Liberal Arts**	Freshman **Health and Exercise Science**	Senior **Social Work**	Junior **History**	Freshman **Fine and Graphic Arts**
"I set a goal to complete a certain amount of work everyday."	"I have come this far. Why give up now?"	"I stay motivated because I'm about to graduate."	"You cannot look at how many weeks you have left or the amount of work you have left. You have to take it day by day and it will be easier."	"I'm just an over achiever, so I always strive to do the best I can do to make really good grades."

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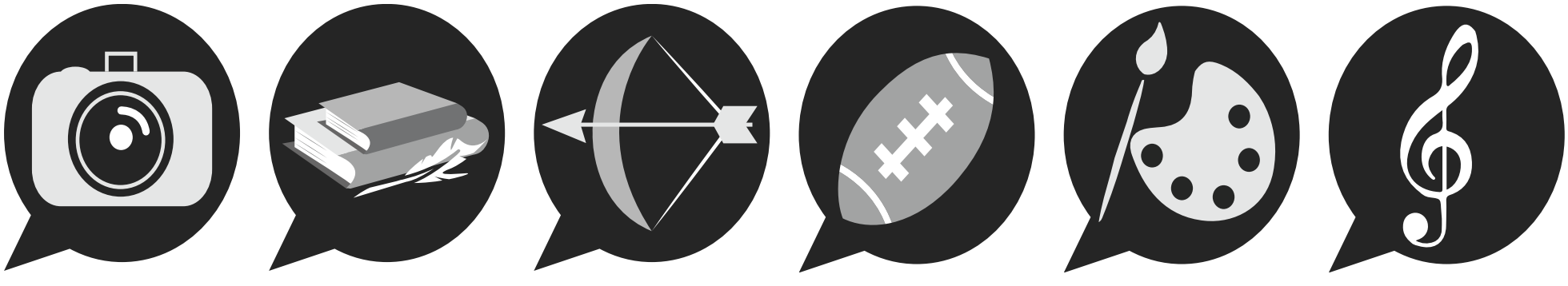
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Getting involved with your peers

AN-GEL SAMUEL
Staff Writer

Beers, wild parties, going to class hungover and having great stories to tell your grandkids are all a part of the college dream, right?

When in reality the "wild parties" consist of your drinking beer alone in your room and that "great memory" was your finding $5 on the ground and buying McDonalds with it, will your grandkids really be proud?

Going to class is a must and going to wild parties is considered the "norm" in college, but what happens when classes are over for the day and there are no parties in sight? Then you're left sitting in your room re-watching Netflix series and wishing you had friends to do fun things with.

Getting involved while in school is one of the best things you can do. This is a way to make new friends who share your same interests and create new bonds with people you wouldn't expect to connect with, and it occupies most of your unwanted free time. This beats sitting in your room, right?

College is only as fun as you make it. This is the time for you to step out of your comfort zone and prepare for your future while having the time of your life.

If you're a singer, become a part of Lifted Voices, the gospel choir here on campus. If you're more of a sports person, join an intramural team. If you love community service, join Helping Hands. If you love music and art, become a part of the campus' newspaper staff or radio station. Joining a sorority or fraternity is also always an option for those looking for community.

"Getting involved in college is truly rewarding because you'll never know who you will meet and how they can help you in the future," sophomore communications major Shania Dauterive said. "It teaches you teamwork, leadership skills, multitasking and networking."

Lying down in front of a screen and avoiding homework may be the easiest thing to do, but what is that really doing for your quality of life?

Getting involved not only helps you get closer to new people and to the school, but it can also give you experiences to help build your résumé. It's never too late.

Certificate of entitlement



AIRROL ANGELLE
Staff Writer

Saying sorry doesn't make you weak. People who practice narcissistic entitlement may believe it does, but it doesn't.

You may be an entitled narcissist if you seek irrational revenge on those you've wronged, avoiding the "s" word at all cost. These feelings of superiority are unjustified, and this view of fairness is skewed.

We all have a contract with society — it's called responsibility. If we do not cooperate with the rest of society, it owes us nothing. Even though conflict will never be fully eradicated, since it is an inevitable element of interaction, we should strive for societal harmony.

You are accountable for your words as well as your actions. Drunk drivers do not "intend" to hit anyone – but they are still punished when they do. Just like when you do not intend to hurt anyone's feelings, you should still apologize if you do.

Claiming "freedom of speech" does not absolve you from responsibility. If that were the case, we would be able to commit crimes such as slander and not be responsible for the aeffect they have on the other party's reputation.

Telling someone to "just get over it" does not make your offense less serious. It only tells the person you have offended that you do not care about them. You have to actually apologize to someone to receive their forgiveness.

People are not entitled to the forgiveness of others. It is a privilege to be in the company of others, and if you offend them it is their right to withdraw their company. To regain their presence in your life, JUST APOLOGIZE.

Narcissistic entitlement is antisocial behavior, since it means you are purposefully isolating yourself from society by choosing to abuse the people in your life rather than respect them. More and more people in the "real world" are getting fired for exhibiting this kind of behavior in the workplace.

PSA: Nobody wants to go to school with a jerk either, so maybe we should stop rewarding narcissistic entitled behavior on campus.

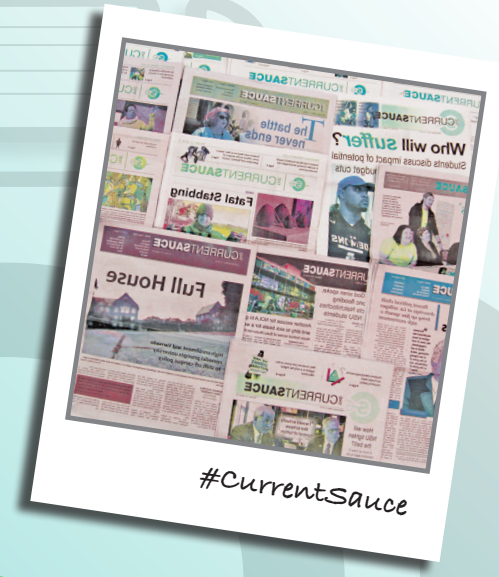
I have been to more classes and seminars about interviewing for a job than anyone I know. I also attend job fairs for the extreme back-to-back interviewing process. I have realized that companies are starting to ask questions specifically to uncover the potential for narcissistic entitled behavior.

An example of this type of question is the familiar "describe a situation where you were responsible for resolving a conflict." They want you to answer it with, "I unintentionally offended a coworker/classmate, so we talked it out and I apologized. We both grew as people and now work together even better than before." It would be ridiculous to answer this question with "I unintentionally offended a coworker/classmate, so I told them they were being too sensitive and to just get over it."

If you feel narcissistic entitlement in your heart, you will not pass this test – you cannot outsmart these questions. It is literally like trying to outsmart a lie detector test. You will not be hired because companies want to keep human relations issues to a minimum.

It is beneficial to your future happiness to avoid the behavior of an entitled narcissist.

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THE CURRENTSAUCE

Wednesday, April 20, 2016 II Volume: 101 Issue: 25

Fourth annual DemonFest to take place this weekend

A&E | pg 4

Crew wins



Courtesy of NSU Crew

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

With just meters between their boat and the others, five NSU students crossed the finish line as champions of the Women's Varsity 4+ race on Saturday, taking home a varsity gold medal from the Southern Intercollegiate Rowing Association (SIRA) Championship Regatta for the first time in the team's history.

"Everyone was within 10 meters of each other," NSU student and crew member of the winning boat, Jami LeBlanc, said. "I just kept looking at the other boats, and I kept telling myself that I won't let them catch us."

NSU Crew, the university's official rowing team, competed at the SIRA Championships, on April 16-17, at Oak Ridge, Tenn. The Women's Varsity 4+ won first out of around 21 other colleges during one of the regatta's largest and most competitive events, according to Head Coach Jason Stelly. The men also performed well at SIRA, as the Men's Novice Lightweight 4+ finished eighth and the Men's Novice 4+ finished 17th overall.

Sixty-one colleges were represented at the SIRA Championships, which is the largest and most competitive conference in the South, according to Stelly. He said that how a team performs at the SIRA Championships is a good indication of how they will perform at nationals.

"We're racing at the highest level we can possibly race at," Stelly said. He explained that the winning boat will move on to nationals at the end of May. He compared the upcoming national championships to the NCAA championship.

Members of the first-place boat included students Melissa Pesacreta, Jami Leblanc, Glory Deaton, Holly Smith and coxwain Nicole Plunkett.

LeBlanc said she had no idea what to expect going into the race. The team had done well during the trials and semi-finals, but the competition was steep in the finals.

At the start, Deaton began to doubt her stamina but was surprised when, halfway through, other teams started losing momentum while the Demons pulled ahead. She said the strenuous conditioning they underwent before the meet and the encouragement of the coxwain brought them through.

"SIRA is a big deal in the rowing world, and to think that our boat crossed the finish line first — I was stunned, to say the least," Deaton said. "Our boat made the impossible possible, and I'm so proud to be a part of that."

Head Coach Stelly said that this year conditioning was especially tough for the team due to the flooding of Cane River earlier in the semester. The team had to transfer to Sibley Lake to complete their spring training on the open water. According to Stelly, open water training is more challenging, as water conditions are rougher, making technique more of a factor. Stelly said rowers put in approximately 20 hours of practice each week.

The result of this rigorous training was "one of the best finishes for NSU Crew in its history," according to Stelly.

Leblanc said that the honor of going down in the NSU record books is an amazing reward for the countless hours and dedication she and her teammates have given to the sport.

"It was my best race that I ever rowed," she said. "Knowing that my name will become a legend in NSU Rowing is pretty awesome."

Senior and fourth-year member Anthony Hunter rowed with the Men's Varsity team. Hunter explained that the regatta is important to the team members because it's the final race of their season and the culmination of their year-long preparations.

"It's important to us because it is like our end goal," Hunter said. "It's the big race that we are preparing for all year long... We have spent every weekday from 5 p.m. until sundown either rowing out on the river to work on our technique or on land on the rowing machines in order to get faster."

Hunter said they also attend weekend workouts and recently spent the entirety of spring break in Natchitoches, attending multiple practices a day in order to prepare for this meet. Hunter added that most members also do individual workouts during their free time.

Head Coach Stelly explained that, since NSU Crew is a club sport, team members are not awarded scholarships. The team is completely student run and supported. These fundraisers include working concession stands at football and basketball games, hosting erg-a-thons and holding raffles.

NSU Crew will compete for the national championship on May 27-29 in Gainsville, Ga., which is the highest level at which a club rowing team can compete.

Rule 1: Play nice

SGA addresses trouble with the Student Concerns Facebook page

AIRROL ANGELLE
Staff Writer

"Right now the guidelines, as they are, are not up to par."
President Matthew Whitaker

The Student Government Association addressed confusion about the function of its Facebook page, which before served as a catch-all for event advertising, student questions, and on ongoing exchange among students and faculty that ranged from humorous to hostile over the past year. On April 11, SGA drafted new guidelines for the Student Concerns Page to improve its function and make the operations of the page more transparent to the student body.

The new guidelines were supposed to go directly on the Facebook page after the meeting, according to SGA President Whittaker, but they still remain unpublished online as of Tuesday evening. Keeping the page going, however, wasn't Whittaker's top choice.

"We never wanted the page in the first place," he said. "It was created by someone who doesn't go here anymore, so we can't delete it. Trust me, I've tried. I think this page is unprofessional."

Senior James Leach, a self-described "troll" of the page, said that overall he liked the new guidelines. He has found the page useful in the past for getting information to students quickly and regularly.

"I follow the concerns page because it's a fast way to get information about something happening on campus," Leach said. "If there's an emergency on campus, the page is often much faster than Purple Alert."

His one issue with it in the past has been redundancy, and he advised students to place material related to previous posts within the comments section.

"We don't need 15 different people posting the same post," Leach said. "It just needs to be one post with sub-posts."

He also cautioned page admins against using their power to control page content unwisely.

"I enjoy the changes, as long as the admins don't get power hungry with the ban-hammer," Leach said.

> "Organizations and individuals may not post information about upcoming events unless given authorization by the SGA. The only organization that may make posts are the SGA, Student Activities Board, and approved university departments or offices. The page is not intended for advertisements."

This was a subject of debate among SGA members during the meeting. Whittaker believed that all RSO's should be able to post advertisements on the page, but other members disagreed, arguing that ads would change the structure of the page. Admins eventually agreed that ads should be messaged to them for approval no later than a week prior to the event date.

> "The page is to discuss situations, not individuals. No individual may be the topic of a post. Posts should not be about 'calling out' individuals or having their motives questioned."

SGA hopes to stop the posting of material taken from personal student accounts on the page. For example, if you were to come across an Instagram photo of a student taking a selfie with a swastika that they had spray-painted onto school property, you could not re-post it on the page under the new guidelines. You would only be allowed to take your own picture of the swastika, then contact SGA directly requesting that it be removed.

This guideline seeks to define the process of deleting posts and removing members in the event that a discussion gets out of hand. If a page member makes a post or comment that is deleted by the page admin, the admin takes a screenshot and direct messages the member explaining why their post or comment was removed. Each member has two strikes and is removed on the third; there is no appeals process.

> "Any discussion on issues must remain civil and polite. Any disrespect, slander, profanity or threats will not be tolerated. Should a discussion or debate become focused between a few people (2-5), the discussion should be moved to a private message."



Newly installed tables and chairs outisde of the Watson Memorial Library hints at coffee shop progress. *Photo by Alec Horton*

Café DeMon to open after delay

JOSHUA FONTENOT
Staff Writer

NSU's long awaited coffee shop is set to open in the last week of April, according to Director Jennifer Kelly of Sodexo.

After numerous opening dates came and went, Kelly assured students on NSU's Student Concerns Facebook page that the facility is ready, but the hold-up is in the yellow tape.

"Once fire marshal inspections (starting April 25) are completed, we should be open for business, " Kelly explained.

Last semester, in November 2015, NSU finally answered the pleas of caffeine-crazed students and announced the construction of a Starbucks lounge in Watson Library.

Kelly said students would start to see progress in the construction within the few weeks after the announcement was made. Later, Kelly went on to state, "We hope to be open Jan. 11." Additionally, Kelly informed students that they could purchase drinks with declining balance.

But, as reported in an edition of The Current Sauce earlier this semester, the promise of a January opening fell through.

The Starbucks was expected to be part of the "We Proudly Serve" program, which allows businesses to buy their coffee beans from Starbucks while having the freedom to change up their menus to serve local products.

But, as reported in an edition of The Current Sauce earlier this semester, we discovered that this promise eventually fell through.

Construction of the coffee shop began in February, missing the initial opening date by months.

"We are hoping for a late March opening," Kelly said. "It could be earlier, could be later depending on what we find as we demo the area."

During this period we also discovered the coffee shop would not be a Starbucks, but a shop named "Café DeMon," no doubt a clever word play on the famous Café Du Monde in New Orleans. However, it is still a Starbucks partner and students can still use declining balance.

Now, in April of 2016, the coffee shop has yet to be opened. Students are beginning to feel antsy after being told they could expect the cafe to open April 13.

"I'm disappointed that the coffee shop isn't open yet, but I still have to be grateful..." said Sophomore Jordan Reich. "I just hope that it's open for finals because I will definitely be needing my caffeine fix then."

"I'm disappointed that the coffee shop isn't open yet, but I still have to be grateful."

POLICE BLOTTER

April 16
Hit and run
Parking Lot 17
Ongoing investigation

Theft
Caddo Hall
Ongoing investigation

April 17
Missing juveniles
CAPA
Juveniles found and returned

Suspicious persons
Watson Library
Persons turned over to city police department

April 18
Drug law violation
Parking Lot 26
Person arrested

Burglary
University Columns
Ongoing investigation

Vehicle collision
University Parkway
Closed

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 20
NSU Magale Concert Band & Wind Ensemble Concert
•Magale Recital Hall•
7:30 p.m.

April 20-23
NSU Theatre and Dance perform "Oklahoma"
•A.A. Fredericks Auditorium•
7:30 p.m., 2 p.m. (23rd)

April 21
HIV & STI Testing
•Kyser Bricks•
9 a.m.

April 22-23
DemonFest 2016
•Iberville Green•
5 p.m.

Wind Symphony concert to close spring season

ALEC HORTON
Photo Editor



Photo by Alec Horton

The NSU Wind Symphony will give their final feature concert of the year on Thursday, April 21, at 7:30 p.m. in Magale Recital Hall.

Featured performers will include graduate student Jaime Cisneros, who will be conducting a Brazilian repertoire piece entitled "Suite Guanabara" by Osvaldo Lacerda, and Associate Professor of Music Michael Rorex, who will be the vocal soloist on Luigi Zaninelli's "Five American Gospel Songs."

When choosing music for a concert program, Director of Bands Dr. Jeff Mathews considers the performers and audience before allowing personal tastes to affect his selections.

"I try to build a program that keeps the audience engaged," Dr. Mathews said. "Since we are an educational institution, I'm always looking for music that is going to challenge our students."

Dr. Mathews said he chooses music as an example to music education majors who will soon be tasked with selecting music for their own bands.

Other than a brief performance at the Family Day Concert on April 24, this concert will be the last time graduating seniors perform as members of the ensemble.

Among those graduating seniors is trombonist and music business major Amanda Crump, who will be a graduate teaching assistant at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, while pursing a master's degree in jazz studies starting this fall.

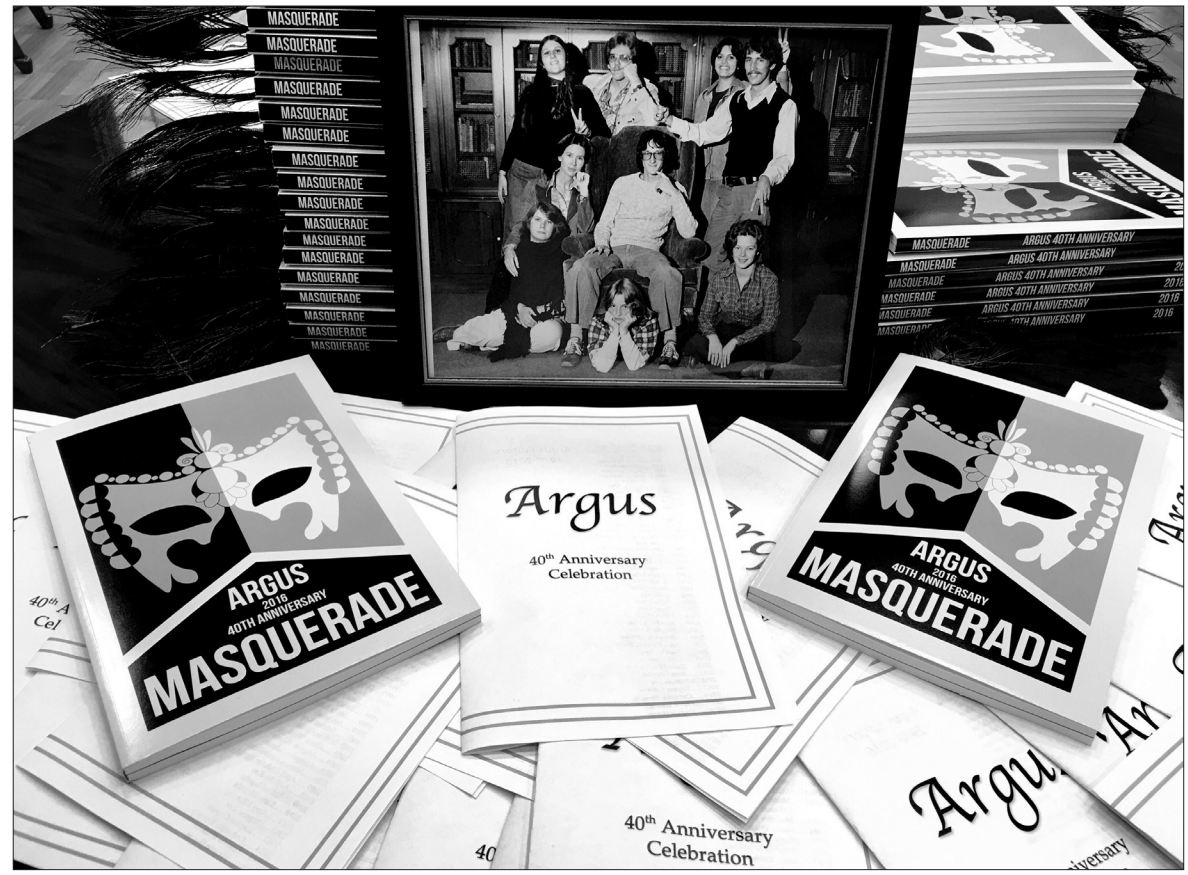
"I'm thankful that I was able to do so many different things in my undergrad," Crump said. "I've been able to perform in a wide array of ensembles." Crump has been a member of the Wind Symphony, Trombone Choir, Jazz Band and Natchitoches-Northwestern Symphony during her time at NSU.

Crump is thankful that she chose a smaller school for her undergraduate studies rather than being "swallowed up" at a large university.

"I'll miss how positive and encouraging everybody is," Crump said. "It seems like everybody is trying to produce music together instead of being competitive."

For graduating seniors who are not pursuing careers in the field of music, Dr. Mathews hopes that their NSU band experience has offered academic and artistic stimulation, leadership opportunities and communication skills. He says that many employers in a variety of career fields were involved in band in their college years and tend to associate a strong work ethic with former band people.

Students who are interested in band should contact Dr. Mathews at mathewsj@nsula.edu. Scholarships are available for performers and the Spirit of Northwestern Media Team, which includes photographers, videographers and sound technicians.



Argus releases 40th anniversary edition

Below: On April 19, Argus staff members Meredith Prochaska, Nicholas Jones, Maggie Harris, Katie Rayburn and Shundrika Smith celebrated the release of "Masquerade," the 40th edition of the literary magazine. Harris, editor-in-chief, wrote in her forward, "The Argus editors are all hardworking, dedicated artists, who have put so many extra hours into making this edition the best."

After fourteen years of working with Argus, faculty advisor Dr. Kane is retiring at the end of this semester. "It's a good note to go out on. We really have had some amazing students both contributing and on staff. This is a publication, I think, to be very proud of," Kane said. She noted that many students published in Argus have gone on to be published with big names, such as Random House Books.

Above: Students can pick up their copy Tuesday, April 19, from racks around campus and can go online to view all past issues of Argus. Editor-in-chief Maggie Harris urged students in her forward to do so. "Coping with loss, the whirlwind of love, finding oneself—these are the themes that connect our generations. They can be found in every issue of Argus…," Harris wrote. The magazine can be found on the Watson Library website under the Cammie G. Henry Research Center page.

From 2003 to 2008, Argus won five national fourth or fifth place awards from the Associated Collegiate Press for best of show. Additionally, the magazine won a Southeastern Journalism Conference third place award.



Photos by Josh Fontenot



NSU French Club hosts first event

ASHLEY WOLF
Multi-media Coordinator

The French Club is hosting its first French Festival at NSU on April 30. The club made a comeback this year after being in hiatus for several years.

The event will feature local and student artists, French food and activities, such as French board games and the game escargot (French for snail). Escargot is a traditional game similar to American hopscotch but uses the shape of a snail rather than a grid.

The event was inspired by the members of the NSU French Club. Each member is an NSU student or faculty with an interest in the French language, its cultural and educational importance. The club offers educational opportunities through movie and game nights. French tutoring is also available and promoted by the club.

French Club Vice President Manney Bustos hopes the event will not only recruit potential members, but also give visitors a better understanding of French culture and heritage.

"Louisiana itself has such a rich and grounded history in French language and culture," Bustos said. "I feel that having a functional French club here on campus shows visibility and further promotes this vision of history and importance."

Bustos is going to graduate school in the fall to pursue a masters in French and Francophone Studies.

“Learning French and the history and the culture has certainly opened up opportunities for me that I would have never even considered otherwise,” Bustos said.

This festival is a celebration of the French language, which is an important aspect of Louisiana culture. Promoting the french language is important to the French club members; Spanish is now the most-spoken second language in Louisiana while French has declined.

Louisiana’s Languages		
	2000	2010
English	90.82%	91.47
French	4.33%	2.80%
Spanish	2.53%	3.30%
Vietnamese	0.56%	0.59%
Cajun	0.35%	0.51%
Chinese	0.11%	0.16%
French Creole	0.11%	0.15%

data from American Community Survey Census 2000 and 2010

Amazon and selfies

SAVANNAH BASSETT
Staff Writer

Amazon has now raised the bar for the use of selfies.

We've seen a lot of crazy inventions and ideas appear throughout our lives. There's been the clap on lights and even finger recognitions to unlock our cell phones. Now one of our beloved shopping sites, Amazon, has released a report saying that they will use selfies as a way to log in and pay for products on user accounts. It raises the selfie's level of functionality significantly and puts a whole new meaning to the phrase, "But first, let me take a selfie."

The user must follow a step-by-step process to take an Amazon-approved selfie, however. The system uses what is referred to as a "biometric facial recognition software." First, the user must face a camera, allowing a censor to verify the user's identity.

Next, the user will be asked to perform a certain movement, like smiling or blinking. This helps reduce the possibility of a customer's account being hacked by using a still picture. In the patent, the company states the problems associated with entering passwords:

"Entry of these passwords on portable devices is not user friendly in many cases, as the small touchscreen or keyboard elements can be difficult to accurately select using a relatively large human finger."

This point can make sense in some ways, especially since so many of us use apps on our phones to make purchases or browse through items on the go. By getting rid of passwords, Amazon also believes that it will reduce the awkwardness of asking a friend or coworker to enter your password.

Not everyone agrees with this though. Some consider this a very insecure form of payment.

“It scares me," student Maura Pellerin said. "I’ve never heard of it until now, but it seems like someone is going to own your image and that is unnerving.”

Junior Chris Das Neves thinks that facial recognition technology hasn't developed to the point where it won't be fooled by someone pulling a selfie from social media to complete a purchase on someone else's account. He is willing to give it a chance though.

"The voice recognition is leaps and bounds beyond anything I had previously experienced with Siri, etc., so we’ll see," Das Neves said. "First impression? Not so much a fan, but curious to see where it goes."

Amazon also stated in the patent that it could be "fun for some users." This may seem exciting, but Amazon has not released a statement eluding to when this new system will be put to use. For now, we will have to stick with our passwords and the struggles of remembering them all.





(Left) The Peddler, Ali Hakim, is a travelling salesman as well as a ladies' man. He gets involved with Ado Annie, which lands him in big trouble with her father. (Right) The cowboy posse is on stage multiple times during the performance, usually for the more extravagant dance scenes. *Photos by Bonny Bacoccini*

'Away we go!'

NSU's Department of Theatre and Dance set to perform 'Oklahoma!,' musical set during early twentieth century

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

NSU's Department of Theatre and Dance will put on their production of "Oklahoma!" April 20-23 at 7:30 p.m., with a Saturday showing at 2:30 p.m. Pia Wyatt is the director, and Corey Trahan is the music director.

Trahan is responsible for preparing the cast musically so that they know what to sing and when to sing it. He has been preparing the cast since late February, a task which includes working with all solo and ensemble rolls. 'Oklahoma!' is actually one of Trahan's favorite musicals and one that he has performed many times.

"Oklahoma!" was written in the Golden Age of Broadway (1940-1960's), a time period which students are less familiar with. The old-school style of singing required for musicals written during this era is similar to opera. Trahan commented that the casts' voices "will sound fuller than they ever have in recent shows."

"I am happy we are introducing [everyone] to [this production] because it is a nice contrast from our production of 'RENT' earlier this season," Trahan said.

Grace Vogel thinks that musicals like 'Oklahoma!' are needed.

"When you watch it, you are happy the whole time," Vogel said. "When you leave the theatre you have hope. You think about things like family, and it makes you thankful to have everyone who is around you in life."



Vogel is playing Aunt Eller, character beloved and respected by the entire community.

This show offers another unique feature besides the singing style: a live orchestra. One of Trahan's favorite moments of helping to produce the play was the first time they added the orchestra.

"The combinations of their stellar voices and live instruments took the music to a surreal level," he said. "The large cast, dancing requirements, dialects and singing in an operatic style has challenged our large cast. However, they have exceeded my expectations, and I'm excited for them to show off their hard work on opening night and subsequent performances."

Trahan is looking forward to seeing it all come together when they add sets, costumes, lights, props and, most importantly, a live audience.

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We three queens



(From left to right) Second runner up Ivy Love, Lady of the Night Ida Slapter, and first runner up and people's choice Booty Pebbles.

JACOB FARNSLEY
Copy Editor

Ida Slapter proudly wears her sash around the house and makes her roommates call her queen. She savors her new-found royalty after being crowned Lady of the Night at Sigma Alpha Iota's annual drag competition on April 14.

She revealed the secret of her success: "Beyoncé called me a few days before and told me, 'Ida, you have to get in formation.'"

Slapter (Ross Arabie) started off by stating her platform and hobbies. Her platform was to stop world thirst, and her hobbies included singing in the shower, rubbing her grandma's feet and collecting used weaves.

"I didn't expect to win," Slapter said. "I did it to have a good time but ended up with the crown."

The hardest part of this year's competition for her was finding something to wear, since she decided to perform only a week before the competition.

"Everything was rushed, but it came together in the end," she said.

Booty Pebbles (JJ Battles) received both first runner up to Slapter and people's choice, with Ivy Love (Caleb Parker) receiving second runner up.

Love's platform played on a pageant cliché: "World Peace. Just kidding, I hate everyone. I'm part of the problem."

Love's hobbies included binge-watching RuPaul's Drag Race and listening to her drag mom. Love said that competing was an amazing experience.

"I am stunned and thrilled to be in the Top 3," Love said. "Even though I only got second runner up, I was so happy just to place." Love also noted that it took her and her drag mom, Alyssa Jane, at least two weeks to get everything together.

Love found out about this competition during the fall semester and knew then that she wanted to participate. She wanted to showcase her talent and be a part of the fundraiser. The hardest part of this competition for her was time management.

"We only had so much time in between getting into drag and getting ready for talent, then getting ready for the interview and awards," she said.

Pebbles took a more serious approach with her platform: "Looking to not only improve the longevity of life, but also the quality of life." Her hobbies included eating cake while doing her nails and dancing to music.

Pebbles enjoyed the competition and was happy to be able to meet some really awesome people. Winning people's choice was a pleasant surprise for her.

"I had no idea that it was going to happen," she said. "I actually didn't even know people's choice was going to be a thing. It made me feel good to know that I entertained people."

The hardest part for Pebbles was shaving her legs. She said that it took her a good two hours to get everything fully removed.

Pebbles saw the signs for the event in Kyser and jokingly told a friend that she would compete. But when Pebbles tried to back out later on, her friend wouldn't let her. Even so, she is glad that she ended up competing and surprised by how much she enjoyed her moment in the limelight.



The queens got in formation just before the show began. *Photos by Steven Sheerin*



Demon Fest





Music festival becomes a campus tradition

KARLA EWING & AN-GEL SAMUEL
A&E Editor and Staff Writer

On April 22 and 23, Iberville Green will become the festival grounds of the fourth annual DemonFest, a music and arts festival hosted by NSU's campus radio station, KNWD 91.7.

DemonFest began in 2013 under the leadership of KNWD General Manager Tara Luck. The first year was small and rainy, but after four years the event is now a staple of the Demon experience.

Student Media Coordinator Daniel Thiels said that the first year was more intimate and local than the festival is now, with only two small stages and local artists. Thiels has been involved with the festival since its beginning and acted as KNWD General Manger for the next two years after Luck.

The second DemonFest was moved to Iberville Green for a more spacious feel and proximity to the student dorms. Student media received a larger budget, which was set aside to improve the festival and to host more experienced bands.

The 2014 headliner was of Montreal, which Thiels described as a "psychedelic rocky band." Thiels and other students are of Montreal fans, so the opportunity to work with and attend a live performance by a more popular band was a notable experience.

"The second year I feel like we really showed ourselves and the university that we could have a real music festival here." He described it as like Voodoo Fest but on a smaller scale.

DemonFest continued to grow, expanding into a two-day event in 2015. The festival featured two headliners and increased student participation. The third festival then added food vendors, artists, activities and a Greek Life section.

"It was cool to see steady growth from the first year to the second year, with a headliner and big stage, to the third year where lots of people got involved," Thiels said.

This year KNWD is partnering with the Student Activities Board, who approved and funded headliner Wale. The event incorporates Spring Fling and Greek Week. The increased budget, due to the recent student fee increase, has allowed for lineup and production improvements.

"We've been more organized, and we're getting more entities to get involved with DemonFest," Senior Matthew Lingle, head of entertainment, said. "I feel like this year will be better not because of the headliner but because we all are coming together to make this great."

Junior Courtney Page, head of programming and future general manager of KNWD, predicts that this year's DemonFest will "go like last year, but 10 times better, which is crazy because last year's festival was really good."

Both NSU and LSMSA students and staff will get in free with a current school ID. NSU students must have a current sticker. Non-students must buy a pre-sale ticket to attend. DemonFest will not be accepting walk-ups. The price is $10 for a two-day pass.

The world is your canvas

CASSANDRA BRISCOE
Copy Editor

"The world is a book and those who do not travel read only one page."
-Saint Augustine

I have attended NSU for four years now, but it took me two years to discover my new-found love for traveling.

I know what you're thinking. Going from Canada to the U.S. isn't really traveling, and I agree. But at the time of my commitment, it was a big deal for me. I was always a home-body; I seldom liked to leave my house or my family that I have a very strong relationship with. However, my time in little ole' Natchitoches has opened my eyes to so much more.

I have discovered that you learn more about yourself in two weeks in a new country than in 20 years at home. I have discovered that you will meet some of the most kind and genuine people in the most unexpected places. I have also discovered that stereotypes do not define a nation, and that embracing new food, languages and cultures teaches you that first hand.

But I think you can sum it up in four words: The world is astonishing.

We attend a university so that we can learn new concepts, challenge ourselves and set ourselves up for a successful future. Although I believe all of that is important, I think that traveling is a crucial step before we jump straight into our careers.

Traveling also offers an educational experience you can't get from anything else. Whether you go to London, Paris, Rome or Tokyo, you will see history all around you. It's more memorable to see it right in front of you then to only read about it in a textbook.

My four years in America alone has really opened my eyes to how unqualified and ignorant I am about the world. I learned that I don't really know much about life at all.

Growing up in Canada, I always thought Canada was the best place to live. I had the same thoughts as Americans do about the Land of Liberty. We form these generalizations about countries and areas around the world that we truly know nothing about. We need to expand our horizons and realize that we only know a tiny speck of Earth, when there is so much more to discover.

People always ask me what the difference between Canada and America is, and it is a question I have a hard time answering. Living here for four years has truly given me a new perspective on just about everything. I used to think my views were moral and correct and that anyone who didn't agree with me was incorrect. Now I understand that it is all about perspective, and the best part about traveling is seeing other people's perspectives.

However, it is unfair to generalize and say that an entire nation all thinks the same way. For instance, some Americans like guns, some do not. Many of my friends in Canada generalize by saying everyone in America loves guns when that is obviously not true. Going to new countries and seeing how foreign people live will impact your life in the best possible way.

So before you leap into a career, before you mortgage a house, before you start a family and before you transition into the full-on adult world, point to a spot on the globe. Pick a place you've always wanted to visit, and just go. Stay in a hotel or call up a friend, it is a milestone in your life that you will never regret.

So be a traveler and not a tourist. Immerse yourself in new people, cultures and food, and open your eyes to this diverse and incredible world we get to call home. All you need is a passport, a backpack and an open mind.

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Track stars named SLC Athletes of the Week

CASSIE BRISCOE
Staff Writer

The NSU track and field team is nearing the end of their season. Two players received recognition from the Southland Conference this week.

For track, Amar James was acknowledged for both his 100 and 200 meter runs. In field, Aaron Williams was credited by the conference and the nation for his distance in triple jump. Both James and Williams were named SLC Athletes of the Week.

The team generally has one outdoor meet at home every season, the Leon Johnson NSU Invitational. It seemed to give the team a home court advantage this year, as events on the track and in the field put up good numbers for the Demons and Lady Demons.

"I thought, 'this is almost like practice, just a little faster,'" James said. His optimism paid off, as he finished first place in both his races. This accomplishment also put him in 15th place for the 200 meter in the NCAA.

Williams' triple jump totaled a distance of 16.10 meters, winning him first place. This jump put Williams in the record book for the third best triple jump in the nation.

"It feels like all the hard work at practice finally paid off," Williams said.

Originally ranked fifth in the nation, Williams was able to jump up to third place.

On the women's side, Ashley Aldredge also reached national rankings in javelin. She improved by five feet, allowing her to jump from 31st to 18th in NCAA.

"It felt good to get back in the 160's, but I still have a lot of work to do to get back in conference," Aldredge, a Natchitoches native, said.

Although she placed first at the meet, she is driven towards a bigger goal.

"I was hoping for the school record today, but I still have a few meets to go after it," Aldredge said.

The track and field team will participate in two more meets before traveling to Corpus Christi for the Southland Conference outdoor championships.



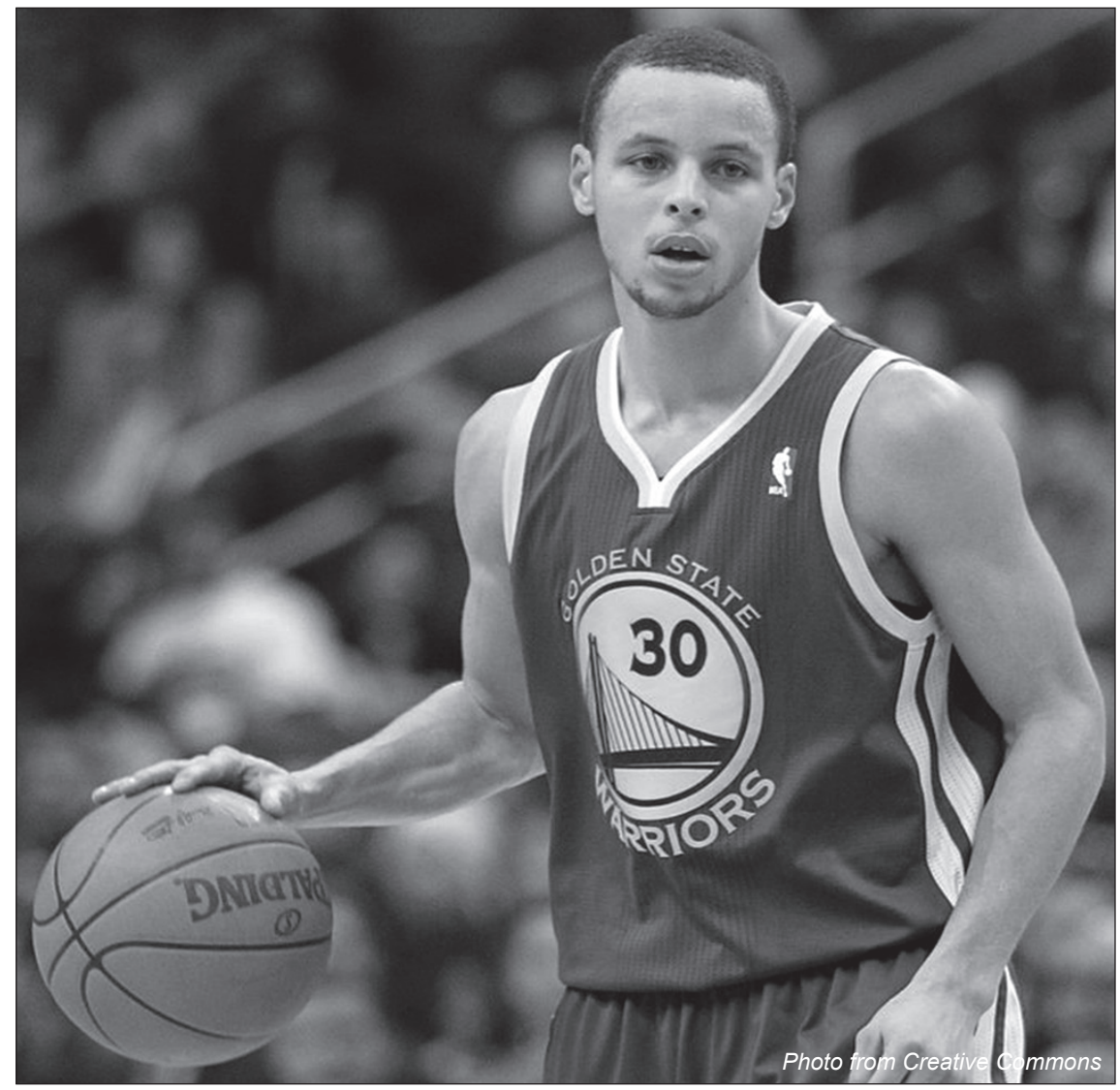


Photo from Creative Commons

Warriors' MVP Stephen Curry breaks record for most three-pointers in one season.

A night to remember for the NBA

REGGIE WILLIAMS
Staff Writer

There's an old saying that "records are made to be broken." That saying has never held more true than for the defending NBA champion Golden State Warriors.

After winning the 2014-2015 NBA title, the Warriors set their eyes on a new accomplishment: the historic 72-10 record of the 1995-1996 Chicago Bulls. Many saw the Warriors breaking this record after their 24-0 start to the season before finally losing their first game of the season to the Milwaukee Bucks.

The record set by Michael Jordan, Scottie Pippen and crew had held strong for 20 years, until the night of April 13. The Golden State Warriors battled the already playoff-bound Memphis Grizzlies, beating them 125-104 in the regular season finale.

The crazy part about this historic night is that it was historic for two reasons. Though the Lakers have had a rough past couple of seasons, Kobe Bryant seemed hopeful of his team's chances. But the team sadly didn't live up to his expectations, only winning 17 games this season.

Secondly, this night was the same night as the last career game of Bryant, a game that saw "the Mamba" score 60 points in a winning effort against the Utah Jazz to end his 20-year-hall of fame career.

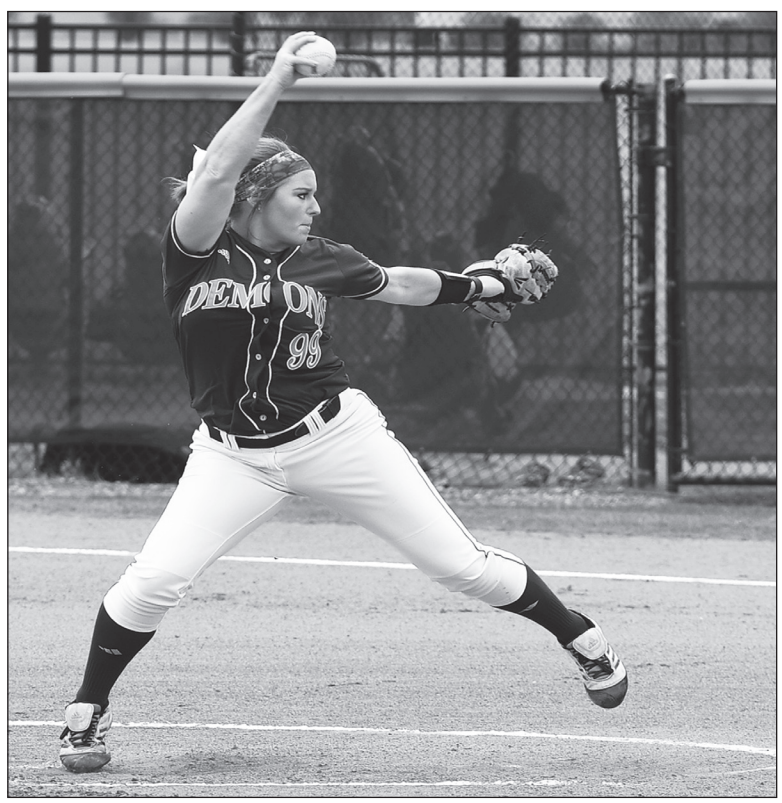
That seemed to make the Warriors' win somewhat of an afterthought to everyone not in Oracle Arena that Wednesday night. The Warriors knew they would battle for national attention with Bryant's last game since the two games shared a start time, but the defending champs had their eyes on the prize. From the tip off, they dominated at both ends of the floor in front of a 19,000 capacity crowd.

To add more fuel to the historical blaze that night, Warriors' star point guard and reigning MVP, Stephen Curry, needed eight more three-pointers to end with a regular season record of 400 in a single season.

The "Chef" would do two better, scoring 10 three-pointers for the game and ending the game with 46 points in just 30 minutes of playing time.

Now the Dub Nation is hoping their Warriors can do something else Michael Jordan and company did: repeat as NBA champions. All of these historic things happening in one night is something the NBA hasn't seen in many years. And it's likely not to be seen again for maybe another 20 years. But one thing is for sure: the 2015-2016 season has definitely been one to remember.

Softball loses series to McNeese



Junior Brittney Jones fights and falls short of series victory against McNeese. *Photos by NSU Photolab*

JACOB HICKS
Sports Editor

The Demon Softball team took on Southland Conference tournament powerhouse McNeese State last weekend, April 15 and April 16, losing the overall series 2-1.

The Cowgirls had been utterly dominant this season, winning 30 games in their past 40 with wins coming against #16 University of Baylor and #25 Mississippi State University, almost defeating #5 University of Louisiana-Lafayette at 4-5.

In their first match-up, the Demons were able to seal one in dramatic fashion. After they had the lead most of the game, they saw it shrivel up with eight runs in the fifth, sixth and seventh inning by the Lady Cowboys to tie up the game 8-8 coming into the bottom of the eighth. Then, Micayla Sorosiak had the biggest moment of the game Friday night, cracking a ball over the wall to win the game for the Lady Demons with a walk off home run, 9-8, starting the series 1-0.

"I was trying to stay within myself and try not to do too much," Sorosiak said on her third home run of the season. "In my recent at-bats, I was hitting the ball hard on the ground, and I just tried to do that again and do it for my team... This was huge for us. We did a great job staying together the entire game – not one or two innings – but the entire game."

Saturday, however, was an entirely different story for the team.

With the first game of the doubleheader close through three innings, McNeese State went on a seven-run streak in top of the fourth to seal up the first game 11-3.

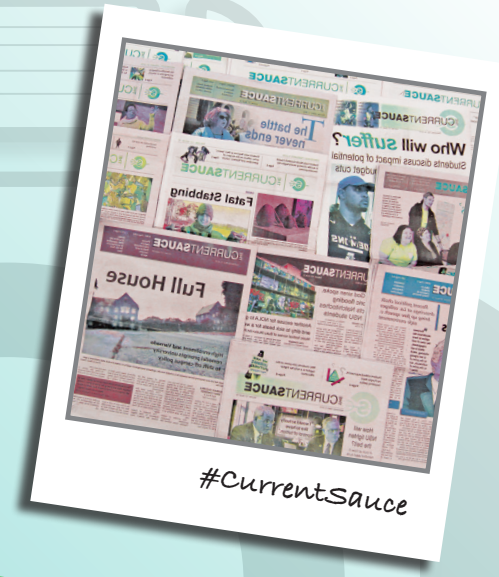
The second game of the doubleheader played out much like the first. Northwestern State kept it close through three innings, until a nine-run inning in the fourth and four-run inning in the fifth helped end the game early for the Lady Cowboys, 14-2.

Northwestern State, winning 24 out of 42 games, will travel to Baton Rouge Wednesday, April 20, to take on the #14 Lady Tigers before taking on Nicholls State University this weekend, April 22-23, in Thibodaux, La.



Junior infielder Micayla Sorosiak scores a home run in the first game of the series against McNeese.

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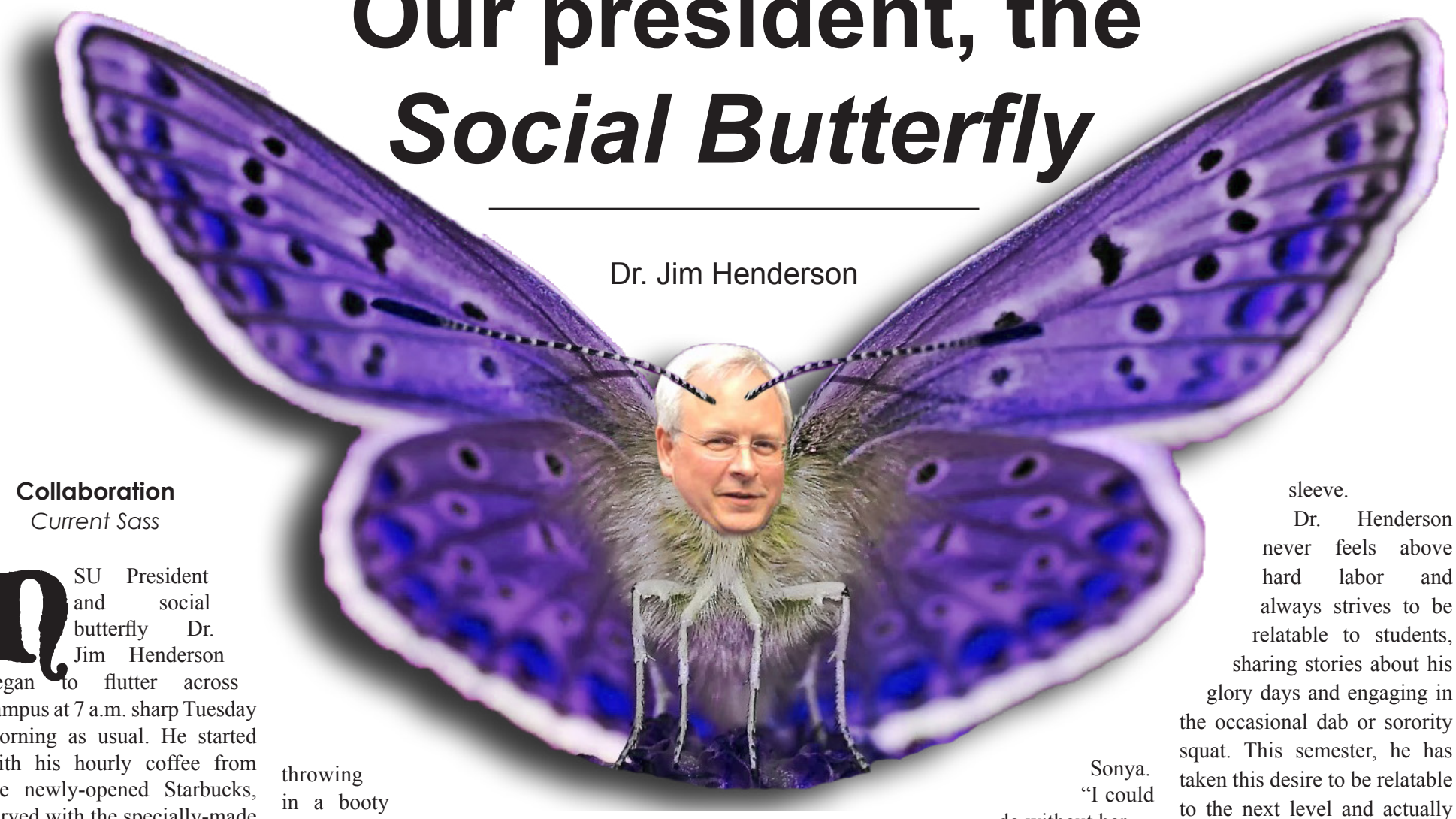
THE CURRENT Sass

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Volume: 101 Issue 26

Our president, the *Social Butterfly*

Dr. Jim Henderson



Collaboration
Current Sass

NSU President and social butterfly Dr. Jim Henderson began to flutter across campus at 7 a.m. sharp Tuesday morning as usual. He started with his hourly coffee from the newly-opened Starbucks, served with the specially-made gold embossed cups ordered to fit the shape of his hand, a gift from the university.

There's no doubt that Dr. Henderson is beloved on this campus, as the numerous requests for signatures on photos of him and Tanya — or Jimya as the pair are commonly known — attest. But he doesn't hide out from the public eye as one might expect. Most people don't know this, but he is actually a compulsively sociable man, so much so that he is not physically able to let a person walk by without saying, "Hey! Who are you?" and throwing in a booty bump.

"My hand just flies up automatically and the words just fall out of my mouth — it's a real problem," he said, physically holding back his right hand with his left as a student walked by.

The only way to combat his obsession with public interaction is to use his cellphone. He has even developed the ability to use his cellphone while carrying a conversation. Throughout the numerous meetings that cropped up during the day, his fingers were steadily moving under the table, sending texts and making posts.

"It keeps me from reaching over and giving everyone hugs all the time," Henderson admitted.

Although he has amazingly become even more popular online than he has in person, some believe that Dr. Henderson exhibits signs of addiction to his smartphone. He assured students, however, that he is completely capable of spending time away from his phone, who he has affectionately named Sonya.

"I could do without her — I mean it — without a problem," he said, lowering his voice and holding his hand over the microphone.

After morning meetings and lunch at the cafeteria, Dr. Henderson began the second-phase of his daily routine, in which he dawns a new set of clothes and takes on a rather different set of responsibilities as campus custodian.

"After budget cuts, when things got tight, I just started doing this from 1-3 p.m.," Henderson said, smiling as he emptied the bin in the union and wiped a smudge off his sleeve.

Dr. Henderson never feels above hard labor and always strives to be relatable to students, sharing stories about his glory days and engaging in the occasional dab or sorority squat. This semester, he has taken this desire to be relatable to the next level and actually become an NSU student.

"Jim's my man," freshman Landon Jepson said of his new classmate. "That dude really loves this school, though, for real. Sometimes he just stands up, looks around and says 'fork 'em' in the middle of class."

After his afternoon classes, Dr. Henderson packed up and headed out for the evening. As he walked back to his house by the river, he looked back at the campus and held up the sign we know so well, smiled that assuring smile, and fluttered away into a purple-hued sunset.

All articles in this issue should be taken with a heavy, heavy grain of salt

Diversity and inclusion on a dime

REBECCA PRICE
Contributing Writer

Last week saw the grand opening of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion. Located on the second floor of the union, the goal is to pacify the individuals whose posts are removed from the Student Concerns Page by giving them somewhere to speak where no one has to listen to them.

"I'm so glad I have another closet to hang out and feel safe in!" sophomore Lindsey Clark stated.

The best part about the center is that the university did not have to expend any valuable resources to establish it. The center is sufficiently stocked with literature donated by a retired high school guidance counselor.

When asked about her contribution, she noted, "I was just going to throw all this out because most of it is outdated and retains little relevance to high schoolers now. So I'm glad the books and brochures could be repurposed."

The center also features a pride flag, free condoms and an ambiguous eastern statue to further promote an inclusive atmosphere. Student workers assigned to the center received no training, so the marginalized persons who visit will be allowed the opportunity to educate them, as is their job as members of a minority.

Reminding them of this duty is a wall hanging of a stock photo that reads, "Communication: build bridges, not walls." But rest assured that the walls of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion will confine the voices of the underdog from disrupting the peaceful atmosphere of this beloved campus.



The center supplies condoms for all of your water balloon needs. *Photo from Creative Commons*

Mayor Announces 'Let the Flag Fly Day'



Photo from Old River Clothier

SAVANNAH BASSET
Staff Writer

During this past Christmas Fest, Mayor Posey angered quite a few Natchitoches residents by not allowing the Confederate flag to be flown in the parade as usual. This became a headlining catastrophe, and the battle took over local news outlets and social media feeds for weeks. To appease those on both sides of the issue, Mayor Posey has put his stamp of approval on the first ever Confederate Festival coming this summer.

Natchitoches will now have a whole festival lining Front Street with all things Old South. Some events to look forward to are target shooting at Yankees throughout the ages, a beer shotgunning contest and of course the classic slave auction — the one where dates with southern ladies are auctioned off, nothing barbaric.

Some of the food booths will carry moonshine, Confederate flag funnel cakes, beer and Obama Waffles — the ones recently made by our conservative compadres Bob DeMoss and Mark Whitlock featuring President Obama wearing his religious turban. Art vendors will also be selling traditionally harvested cotton and other local products stamped with the official grade of "Southern Pure."

The festival will begin on June 3 at 5 p.m. on Louisiana's official Confederate Memorial Day and end whenever everyone decides to sober up. All individuals should get there early in order to receive mini-Confederate flags and matching koozies. There will also be a raffle for a complete flag pole and flag set, signed by Mayor Posey himself.

Posey stated his official reasoning for making this festival happen.

"As mayor of a small southern town, I think that it is important to keep southern history alive," Posey said. "I deeply regret disregarding the feelings of those who simply want to uphold the values and traditions that we fought so hard to protect by honoring them with a God-fearing, family-friendly, Confederate-style hoedown."

Every individual is encouraged to dress up and treat each other just as they would in pre-Civil War southern society to get a taste of this purer, simpler time. Tickets will be available at town hall and will cost $3 for children 12 and up. Adult admission will be $5, and students with IDs will get in free. Let's celebrate this wonderful event and let our southern roots show.



Students march through Prather parking lot demanding that education on sexual assault prevention be banned from campus. *Photo by Ashley Wolf*

Students protest rising consent culture

MEG DENNY
News Editor

Since the arrival of the sexual assault prevention group on campus, Demons Support Demons, tensions have been on the rise. While many students support the common phrase "no means no," some are extremely offended by this push towards consensual sex.

On Tuesday, April 26, these offended students held a protest to call for the removal of the group. They had multiple signs and chants prepared for the occasion. One sign read, "It's ok if we're both drunk," and another read, "Consent is so PC!"

The protestors began in front of Kyser Hall but were quickly moved to Prather Coliseum's east parking lot, one of the three approved "free speech zones" on campus. Because they applied for a permit, the dean of students said she could not ask them to leave unless they created a hostile environment.

After an hour of chanting, "No more blue balls!," they managed to gather a crowd of athletes. "Most of these athletes didn't particularly care about the protesters but came over instead because the words 'blue balls' are funny," tennis player Louise Drement said. "After putting in hours of practice, sometimes we need a little laugh, and Prather is usually super quiet."

Fed up with the athletes' vacant stares, the group stole all of the baseballs bats and used them to hit the new Blue Light security systems across campus. These systems were installed for the safety of students who walk alone at night and do not have access to a phone.

To the protestors' dismay, the newly remodeled versions are designed to be vandal proof. The group continued their rally in the green space between Varnado and the Creative and Performing Arts building, despite the complaints filed by students to the dean of students.

"Even after the baseball bats were stolen, I think these protestors had the best intentions... They weren't creating a hostile environment, they didn't even hurt our security systems," the dean giggled. "No, I let them stay. Maybe we could all learn a little something from experiencing opinions different from our own."

While many paid no attention to these protestors, Danielle Topetu said that she couldn't look away.

"What kind of people fight for an end to consent?" Topetu said. "They made a huge mistake. I took a video, posted it on Tumblr, and now the whole Internet hates them. CNN just called me to ask if I wanted an interview. I love the South."

After three hours of attempting to overthrow the efforts of sexual assault prevention advocates, the anti-consent group decided to call it a day.

"Do I regret protesting? No," student activist and anti-consenter Mark Husslenet said. "I left because practicing freedom of speech can be really exhausting.

I think we did a good thing here today, though. I started the morning thinking that if I could just change one student's mind about consent I'd have done my job, and I think I have."

Demons Support Demons was not available for comment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 28
New printers will be ordered
Campus Labs, 2 p.m.

April 29
Dr. Jim Henderson drops mix-tape, "Fork 'Em Up."
Release party in The Alley, 4 a.m.

April 30
Internet "will not work."
All of Campus, 12 a.m.-11p.m.

May 1
Police might give out parking tickets, might not.
CAPA Parking Lot, 8 a.m.-2:59 p.m.

May 2
Students ignore finals and hangout in Starbucks.
Watson Library, 8-12 a.m.

May 3
Surprise drug testing for nursing students.
Bienvenue, 8 a.m.

‘The Purple Haze,’ revealed

AIRROL ANGELLE
Staff Writer

It will come as a shock to some that, at one point in history, Natchitoches residents actually disliked that the water was so unique. They saw it as “contaminated” and “dangerous,” and thought the yellow-brown color was a bad thing. Now we know that the Natchitoches water actually contains the secret to the townspeople’s success. That secret is drugs.

People used to think it was the result of fracking or poor water treatment facilities, but now they know it’s really all the drugs that the townies and the academics have to take to make it through the day.

The townies are on meth and PCP to keep up with their demanding jobs, and the students are all on stimulants like Adderall to keep up with their demanding professors. The professors are all on Klonopin to deal with the apocalypse that is budget cuts, and most of the staff maintains their feelings of control with a heavy regimen of Viagra and avoidance of title XI events. When they get the chance to relax, it is impossible to accomplish without the help of tranquilizers.

We are all taking anti-anxiety medication and anti-depressants like Xanax and Zoloft to make sense of our disconnection and help us get along. It does not take a genius to figure out that our bodies cannot absorb 100 percent of the drugs we purposefully ingest, so some of this is getting flushed.

Although the chlorine is dumped into the water treatment facility to kill the bacteria, it can’t kill the chemicals. In other words, Natchitoches tap water is basically dead bacteria and pharmaceutical runoff.



Local water rumored to be a hit with tourists. *Photo by Sheila Humphrey*

When asked about the water situation in Natchitoches, NSU President Dr. Jim Henderson said he could not have accomplished so much without the help of the “miracle tap.”

Henderson has made progressive changes to NSU in record time. He politely offers his colleagues a bottle of water with a purple NSU label at the beginning of every meeting.

“This puts them into what I like to call a ‘Purple Haze’,” he said. “I talk and talk; they drink and drink. By the end of the meeting they think we were just visiting and nothing happened, but they actually signed agreements to the changes I want.”

Henderson went on to explain that his new retention efforts will be centered on Natchitoches tap water.

“The potential freshmen will come for a visit, have a bottle of our NSU water, then bam. Before they realize what happened, they’ll have been here for four years,” he said, leaning back in his chair proudly.

Feel really great after a hot shower? You should, because you are actually intoxicated. Heat opens your pores. Your skin is absorbing all those trace pharmaceuticals and getting highly rejuvenated in the process.

Graduating Senior Rain Crimple said he couldn’t have accomplished all he has here at NSU without the help of Natchitoches water.

“I use to actually have to seek out medicine for colds and what not, or drugs to make it through the day, but now all I have to do is wake up and splash my face with water and I’m good. The best part about it is there are absolutely no side effects!” Crimple said, scratching his knuckles and pulling his sleeves over the purple spots that had mysteriously begun to appear on his palms.

Sodexo meals most coveted in Natchitoches

JAMES LEACH
Contributing Writer

After tallying up the highly-effective Student Messenger Poll results, Sodexo is now officially the most-sought-after dining establishment for locals and college students at NSU.

“The value is just too good to pass up,” NSU Percussion Student LaCurtis Jones said. “I mean, have you tasted the fresh pasta?”

The poll shows that over 69 percent of NSU Alumni who still live in Natchitoches Parish have purchased parking permits so that they can legally park and dine at the five-star buffet at Iberville.

When asked about what they’ve done to be so successful with NSU students and faculty, the Assistant Grand Master Flavor Chief at Sodexo said, “We just followed the lead set by Colorado. I mean, with only an average price increase of $4.20 per item, why add flavor when we could add nature?

Brownie sales have been through the roof, and we’re hoping to go green with every menu item. Once we figure out how to infuse the Jamaican import with granola bars, it’ll be game on.”

The Sodexo Coffee Manager was shocked to see the impact a flavor and brand can have on the student population.

“We’re so used to overstocking supplies we don’t sell that we’ve run out of gourmet coffee in our new coffee establishment in the library. It’s crazy… we never run out in Vic’s, but as soon as we used a name people respected we ran out,” they said.

Luckily, for residents in the Natchitoches area, Sodexo is here to stay. With their new meal plan options, students’ balances can now reach over $9,000 and will now conveniently roll over between every other month. Unused balances will be donated to Sodexo, which will allow the business to thrive like never before!



Success may stem from the new brownies. *Photo from Creative Commons*

SGA spends $13,000 on SGA T-shirts

MEG DENNY
News Editor

On Monday, April 25, the Student Government Association voted to spend their entire budget on promotional T-shirts for SGA. The decision was made on the SGA "GroupMe" after careful consideration from the senate; the deliberation lasted for five minutes, setting a record high for the association.

"Out of everything we offer to students, they really only like free T-shirts," one senator said. "So we thought, if we are to serve the student body according to their needs, we needed to give out more shirts."

The shirts will resemble those of sorority and fraternity members on campus according to one senator on GroupMe. When voting on style, this senator inspired the senate by quoting the CEO of Abercrombie and Fitch.

> "Candidly, we go after the cool kids. We go after the attractive all-American kid with a great attitude and a lot of friends. A lot of people don't belong [in our T-shirts], and they can't belong. Are we exclusionary? Absolutely."

Many responded with thumbs up emojis, indicating their support for his idea.

While SGA is excited to bring more of their fan merchandise to the campus, some students are questioning the choice. Junior Mary Clarksin, said that only one student asked for the new T-shirts: a troll on the Student Concerns Facebook page.

"Despite all of the legitimate concerns on campus, SGA only paid attention to the troll asking for something useless," Clarksin said.

Another student, Senior Vince Lornfell, said he was angry that SGA passed the bill through GroupMe. "That's about as official as a Buzzfeed news article," he stated

"At first I thought, 'Wait, that's legal?' But then I remembered that SGA is dedicated to one goal, theirs," Lornfell stated. "Also, Louisiana's state government sets a great example for them, so I can't really blame SGA for following suit. I just wish I could have had a voice in the process."

Students can find the new T-shirts at any SGA event they otherwise wouldn't be caught dead attending. Meet Your Senator Day, the Midnight Breakfast and the upcoming Leadership Conference will all serve as hotspots for the coveted cloth. In their upcoming meetings, SGA plans to vote on the "Should We Give Up Altogether?" and "Should SGA Members Be Exclusively Privileged People?" bills.

The president of SGA encouraged students to come to meetings and voice their opinions. "We don't really want you there, but we also know you won't come even if we ask you to," he said. "So here I am, inviting you to any of our Monday meetings."



It turns out SGA T-shirts were actually the secret to fixing all of NSU's long-existing potholes. *Photo by Alec Horton*

What else can you buy for $13,000*?

325 handles of Jose Cuervo Tequila

71 Jogging Baby Strollers

173,333 Totino's Pizza Rolls

85 Beats by Dr. Dre Headseats

15,662 Hanes Men's Crew Socks

31 Gold Gym Treadmills

*Product prices based on WalMart's website

Police Blotter

April 21
Hurt feelings
CAPA
Ongoing investigation

Lawn chair knocked down
Iberville Green
Closed

Student stung by wasp
Iberville Green
Closed

April 22
Frisbee hits performer
Ibeville Green
Ongoing investigation

Musician attempts to buy joint off student
Iberville Green
Closed

Flower crown thrown in policeman's face
Iberville Green
Ongoing investigation

April 24
Strong smell of weed and despair
Morrison Hall
Closed

God Siren hacked by students
Police Station
Ongoing investigation

April 25
Traces of weed found in Sodexo cookie
Vics
Ongoing investigation

April 26
Underground fight club discovered
Natatorium
Closed: Fall 2016 enrollment now available

Football field occupied
Turpin Stadium
Closed: team actually practicing

DEMON STYLE: THE CUTTING EDGE

HANNAH RICHARDSON
Staff Photographer

If you're interested in having a sense of danger introduced to your wardrobe, you may want to consider replacing your hands with sharp objects!

One of the strangest trends of the past few decades has been scissorhands. This risky fashion trend was first introduced by Freddy Krueger in his debut film, "A Nightmare on Elm Street," in 1984.



Krueger is most known for wielding creepy claw gloves to terrorize — I mean dazzle — his "victims" in this horror franchise. Another mogul in this part of the fashion industry is the Scissorman, the antagonist of the popular video game franchise, Clock Tower. His favorite piece is, you guessed it, a giant pair of scissors. Truly, they are inspirational characters in this unique part of the fashion industry.

One of the modern pioneers of this razor-sharp trend is Edward Scissorhands, from the 1990 Tim Burton classic of the same name. His hands are actually made of several pairs of scissors, which sets him apart from Krueger and Mr. Scissorman. His sister, Edwina Scissorhands, was also created with scissor hands and had the time to talk to us about how having scissorhands affects her life.

"I wish I could take them off sometimes, but they're such a big fashion statement for me," Scissorhands said. "I just can't see myself without them."

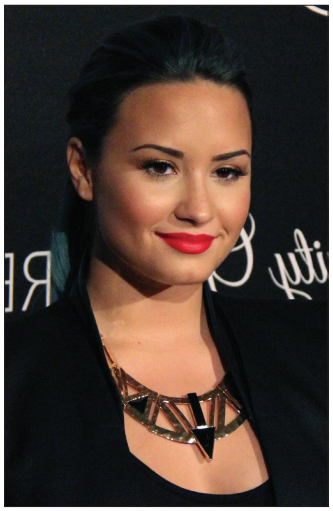
Even though they look super awesome, having sharp objects for phalanges isn't all that it's cracked up to be. Scissorhands says the hardest part of having scissors for hands is writing and applying make-up.

"I have so many cuts on my face at this point that I've given up applying make-up in fear of losing an eye," she said. She also considers her scissorhands as a necessary accessory to her steam punk goth style.

Even though it might be hard to handle, having a pair of these stylish scissorhands are worth it.

"After having scissorhands for as long as I've had, I just want to warn people of the dangers, but it's definitely a fun lifestyle," Scissorhands said. "In the long run, having scissorhands is really awesome and unique!"







Singers Demi Lovato and Nick Jonas stirred up controversy after cancelling concerts in North Carolina following the state's passage of a law prohibiting gender-neutral bathrooms in public venues. Their reason for cancelling is that the new law prevents them from having sex in the bathroom, confirming cynics' fears about purpose of gender-neutral bathrooms. *Photos from Creative Commons*

Gender-neutral bathrooms are actually for heteronormative sex, celebs confirm

ALEC HORTON
Photo Editor

Fans of Demi Lovato and Nick Jonas have recently been gravely disappointed. The two singers are canceling their tour dates in North Carolina on the Honda Civic Tour in protest of the state's recent bill prohibiting transgender individuals from using public bathrooms corresponding to their gender identity.

"We know the cancellation of these shows is disappointing to our fans," Lovato and Jonas said in an official statement on Twitter. "We trust that you will stand united with us against this hateful law."

On Lovato's Twitter and Instagram, fans commented things like "North Carolina are nasty," and "Yaass queen slayyy." Fan comments on Jonas's Twitter were far more explicit with their grateful reactions, asking "daddy" to provide them with sexual favors because of how hot this decision made him appear.

Little did they know sexual favors were exactly why the two of them boycotted the state in the first place.

They have a habit of going into the bathrooms before the show to pee on each other. Now that this is illegal, Lovato and Jonas decided to make a scene out of the situation and boycott the state entirely.

In a private message uncovered by the popular hacking group, Anonymous, the two shared the real reason behind this decision.

"Nick, I just can't go on tour without us being able to have our time together in the bathroom before the show."

"I know Dem, we'll have to just cancel if we can't share the stall to, you know."

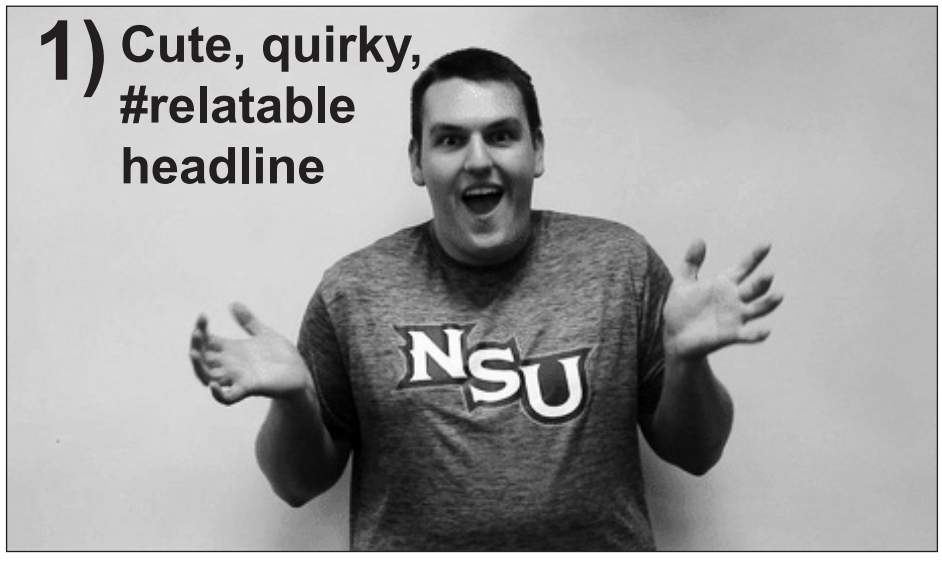
This discovery confirms what many people have long-suspected: gender neutral bathrooms are really for heteronormative sex. Sophomore Christopher Capricorn said that he is grateful that Anonymous uncovered these revealing messages.

"It's time that students and Americans everywhere realize how dangerous having these bathrooms would be to the fabric of our society," Capricorn said. "Imagine men and women doing it in front of our children, sneaking in there in the name of being politically correct."

The two have not been available for comment, but that may be busy doing the deed in a bathroom in California, where gender-neutral bathrooms run rampant.

Seven simple steps to writing a #relatable article

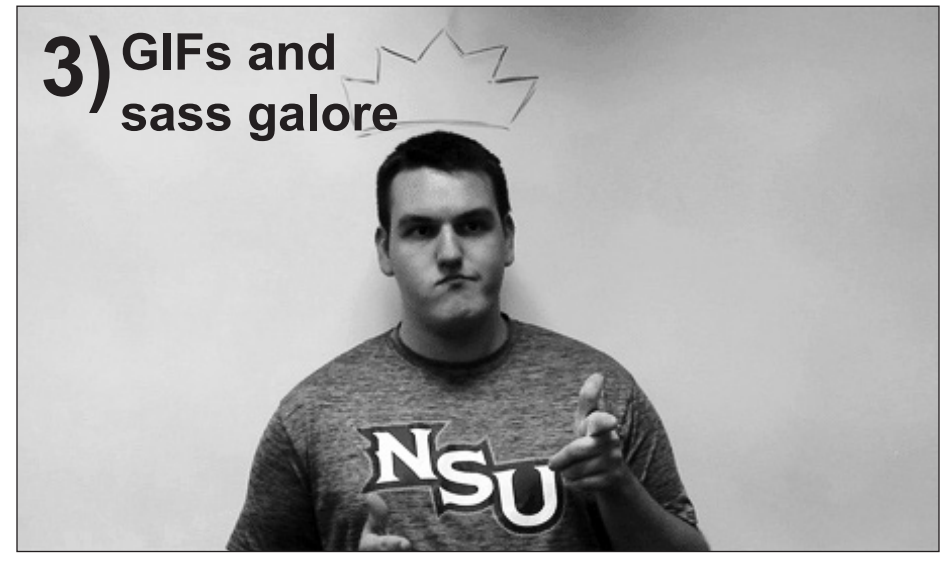
ALEC HORTON
Photo Editor
Continued on Page 10



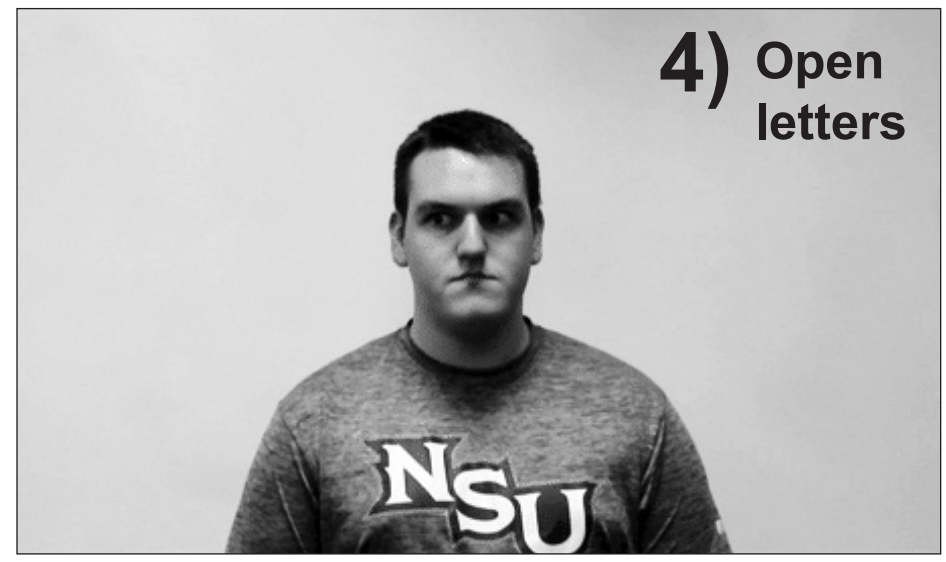
You want to capture your readers' attention with a headline that is ideally around 10 percent cute, 15 percent quirky and 127 percent #relatable. Why would anybody torture themselves reading about current events, dry-old politics or Middle East anything? #unrelatable



These are so much fun. If you don't know what this is, you have probably been in solitary confinement for the past five years. You know when something is like an article, but not? That's a listicle. You know when something puts what you already know in a beautifully ordered list so that it almost feels as if you're learning it for the first time? Listicle. Be careful with these, though. You need to crank up your #relatable percentage to at least 155 for this form of journalism to work.



What is a Facebook-shareable article without a few #relatable GIFs here and there? Not one I'm reading, that's for damn sure! It needs to get progressively sassier if you want people to keep reading, so much so that by the end your readers are snapping their fingers, adding queen to their name and slapping the first human that walks their way. (Side note: What is the correct way to say GIF? I say GIF, but if you say GIF instead of GIF, I'm not going to give you a hard time for it. FREE THE GIF)



Writing an open letter to somebody in your life is the perfect way to show your appreciation while simultaneously displaying a commendable awareness of how important your life history is to everyone else. You're so incredibly thankful that your parents paid your way through college? Bring over the double ply, because this type of self-congratulation for your family's status and support is sure to bring the feels to your peers.



NSU students dawn festival attire for Demon Fest.

Music festival fashion

KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

All in the name of peace and love! Good vibes.

It's festival season, and you know what that means: shopping spree at Urban Outfitters and Forever 21 for the trendiest festival fashions. How else is Kanye going to notice you? By your looking better than Kim, that's how.

"Music festivals are the highlight of every summer, particularly for most people in their early 20s," according to Backroom. "It may be about music but, for fashionistas, what you wear to the shows is just as important."

Before going to a festival, it is essential to research the festival fashion guides, conveniently found all over the Internet, to ensure that you will be the most unique gal in the audience.

This of course includes bikinis, crochet and denim, preferably high-waisted. And put an elephant on it — elephant on my crop top, elephant on my shorts, elephant on my maxi skirt, elephant painted on my face.

Festival season is a gift to single women. Halloween is no longer the only night of the year when a girl can dress like a total slut and no other girls can say anything about it. It is scorching hot, and how else are you supposed to get an even tan?

Among other things to pack are tanning lotion, flower headbands, kimonos, your Naked makeup palette and aviators. Posting selfies throughout the entire festival is also an absolute necessity, so pack a solar charger, extra battery packs and a selfie stick (two is better just in case one gets lost or broken).

Wait, who even headlined Coachella?

Well, at least your hair looked fabulous for four days straight, with a different headdress every day. Flower crowns, head chains and feathers are key.

"My great great great grandmother knew a Native American, so wearing this feather headdress is not cultural appropriation," freshman Alana Crainstain said.

Don't forget your flash tattoos! Metallic temporary tattoos are a must for any festival. There's nothing more sexy than wearing temporary tattoos made for children.

No, seriously, who is that singing on the main stage?

Whale...?

It doesn't matter, because you'll likely be facing the other way the entire time to catch those must-have selfies with... with that guy on stage in the background.



Queen Bey continues to slay

Beyoncé Giselle Knowles-Carter: American singer, songwriter, record producer, actress & supernatural goddess



KARLA EWING
A&E Editor

Beyoncé, Bey, Sasha Fierce, B, Yoncé, Queen Bee — whichever name you choose to call her — we all serve the same queen, and The Current Sauce is no exception. Everyday is B'Day in the newsroom. We can see your halo Bey, and your grace has shined down upon us.

Not an issue gets approved for printing without the mention of her majesty. We aspire to go above and Beyoncé on our A&E page. Beyoncé is single handedly leading the fourth wave feminist movement, preaching female empowerment and sexuality. Her music is making the ladies want to get a ring on it, run the world and get in formation.

Beyoncé laughs at her haters and their corny Illuminati mess because she's obviously running that shit by now. Behind the music scene Beyoncé is a mother and the puppeteer behind the United Nations, British Parliament and Obama's presidency. Queen Bee is the power behind the throne — black Bill Gates is no longer just in the making.

'Cause she slay. Hey. Okay.

Singing on the mic to her boy toys, drinking and singing on the mic until her voice hoarse. Beyoncé is just being honest through her music — we really do all like cornbread and collard greens. Queen Bey makes us commoners feel much less hot mess about the hot sauce in our bags. She does it to!

With Texas swing and Louisiana soul, Beyoncé inspires future young alcoholics by riding around in an El Camino with the seat low, sipping Jose Cuervo with no chaser. Bey gets filthy when that liquor gets in her, introducing Yoncé.

Yoncé's music gives us life, power and the perfect amount of ratchet to make it to the weekend, when we can have our drivers roll up the partition — no "please" necessary.

Took her 45 minutes to get all dressed up, but we ain't even going to make it to the club. It only takes her 45 minutes to create perfect make up and a flawless outfit. Beyoncé may have supernatural power.

He can Monica Lewinski all on her Givenchy gown because if he "fuck her good," she'll take him to Red Lobster. Bey is a strong, independent black woman who don't need no man.

If he doesn't satisfy, don't you ever for a second get to thinking that he is irreplaceable. Move him and everything he owns in a box to the left. He'll just become the best thing Bey's never had. And she won't shed a tear for you or lose a wink of sleep, because the truth of the matter is that replacing a man is too easy for Sasha Fierce.

Beyoncé, the female powerhouse musician, continues to produce awe-inspiring music. When life gives you lemons, Beyoncé blesses us thirsty hoes with lemonade.

After standing in the light of Bey's halo, the A&E section has found our angel. Everywhere we look now, we are surrounded by Bey's embrace. She's our saving grace — everything we need and more. It's written all over this section, and we pray it won't fade away.

For all students exhibiting early signs of Queen Bee addiction, the Current Sauce will be offering Bey-support meetings each Tuesday at 5 p.m. These meeting will be an open and safe environment for people to share their passion for her music.

We'll continue to bow down, and she will continue to slay.

All hail Queen Bey.

Seven sime steps to writing a #relatable article

Continued from page 7



Don’t take any risks, ever. You don't want to catch any flack for something that doesn’t conform to the opinion of the majority. Feel free to discuss controversial issues, but do it in a way that anybody who dares to disagree with your point of view will be aggressively silenced and publicly shamed.



Your biography needs to have between 10-20 words and contain at least seven periods. Be sure you mention that your religion is feminism and you’re in a long-term relationship with your pet — these are textbook necessities.

7) SHARE SHARE SHARE

The last step is to share the shit out of your article and beg your friends to do the same. Now you can enjoy that adoring fan mail left in the comment section. Congratulations, you talented writer, you. You are now #relatable.

The virtues of shit-shaming

ANONYMOUS

You've been there before. You ate a large Mexican burrito, and it just hit you in the middle of class. Your stomach began to grumble, but you knew that if you were in the bathroom for more than five minutes, you would return to class only to become a victim of shit-shaming.

Although this is a dilemma for both men and women, women especially fall prey to an aggressive form of shit-shaming. They are expected to present themselves as sophisticated, squeaky clean beings, and women have nobly taken on the task of policing other women who dare to poo in public as a service to the fairer sex so that this social standard is upheld.

"When I go to the bathroom here in Kyser Hall and notice a girl sitting there silently in the stall, I know that I better call her out now so she learns her lesson," sophomore Betsy Gerber said.

Any expression of gastrointestinal tract function will be dealt with swiftly and severely. Giggles and loud whispers are some of the tamer ways to do this. You've also got the lingerers, who will hang around just to see if you'll dare to let it drop. There's also the more proactive women, who will find out your identity by peeking through the cracks, checking your shoes, and when all else fails climbing on the toilet and looking over the top.

It doesn't even matter if you actually do it or not. Any extended time in the bathroom — unless at the club with your girlfriends — is unacceptable and will be perceived as bowel movement, equating with the unfeminine, the gross and the undesirable.

You will be judged, shamed and policed, as you should.

So what to do? The only way to avoid shit-shaming is to NOT SHIT. Obviously, first off, you shouldn't have eaten that burrito, a disgustingly unladylike food which comes in a ready-made shape for the shameful result — speeding up the process quite a bit. But you ate it, and now it's too late. You have only two options:

1. Hold it in.

2. Go home and skip the rest of the school week.

You absolutely under no circumstances cannot go to the school bathroom and expect to get away without judgment. If you do, you have to endure the agony of waiting for someone to walk in and discover you while doing the deed. And if they start fixing their makeup or God-forbid more start to file in, you could be stuck in the stall all day.

"I've literally sat on the pot for four hours before because I couldn't get a break in people walking in on me," freshman Lindy Treslow said.

If you've already eaten the burrito, entered the stall and become trapped in there, there are a few measures you can take to ensure minimal damage is made to your reputation. One is to lift your feet so that no one can look under the stall and judge you by your shoes. Another is to dodge and weave to avoid them seeing your face through the cracks. You can also cough loudly, flush or wrestle the toilet paper out of the dispenser to drown out the sound of an unstoppable plop.

Avoidance is key.

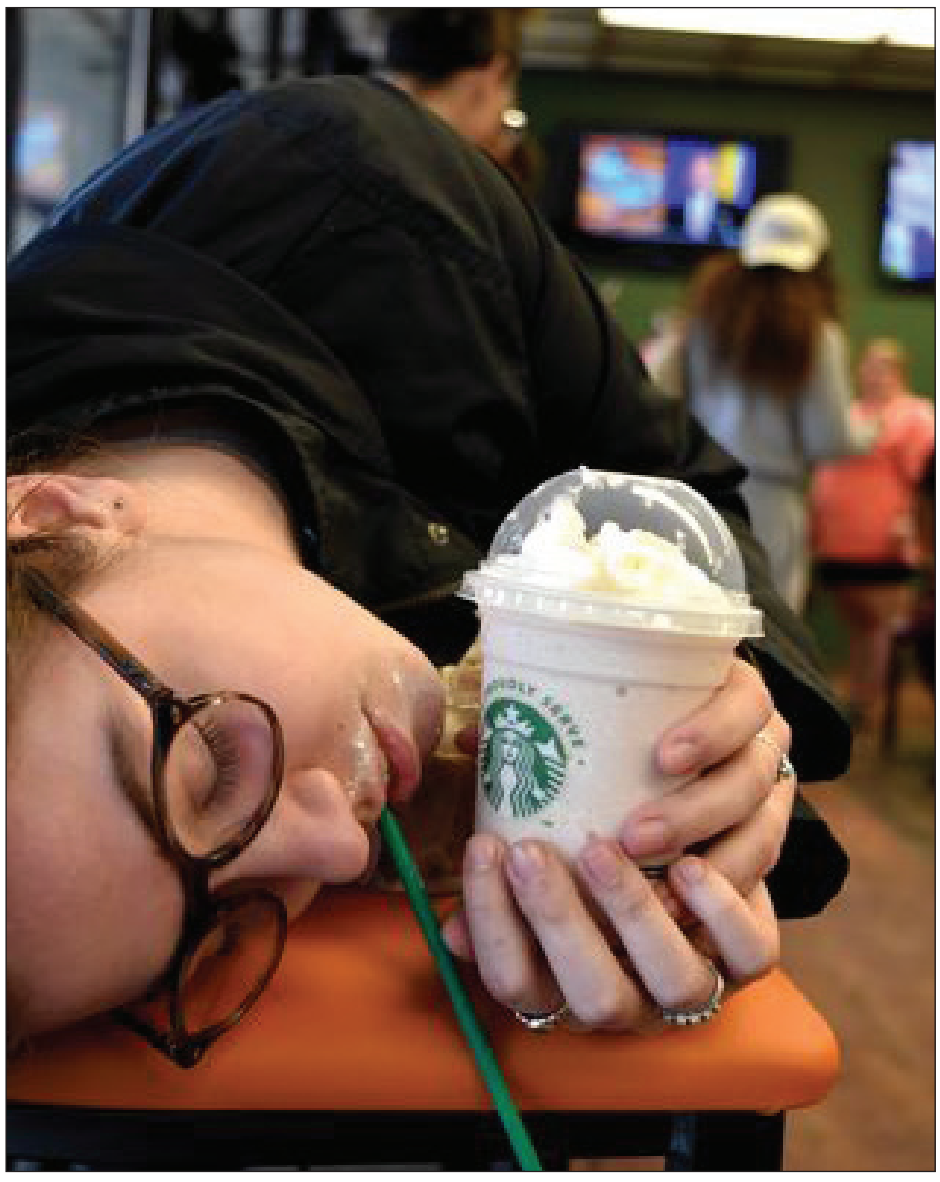
That being said, the only sure way to avoid being shit-shamed is to limit public bathroom time and refrain from any form of digestive expression.

"We do what we can for our own," Senior Margie Wolstein, a self-proclaimed proactive shit-shamer, said proudly.

The Current Sauce will publish two issues during Summer 2016. After that, we will return full-time during the 2016-2017 Academic Year. Be sure to stay up-to-date by following us on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and Snapchat.

Starbucks opens

Students move into new campus Starbucks, others still skeptical it exists



Students are actually moving into Starbucks in order to make up for all the time without it now that it has finally opened. *Photo by Emily Fontenot*

EMILY FONTENOT
Editor-in-Chief

Students sent dust swirling through the air as they brushed passed stacks of books to what is by far the campus library's newest addition: a real-live Starbucks. With salivating smiles and wads of fresh cash, students filed in. But, to the shock of campus officials, failed to file out.

"This is not what we prepared for," operations manager Orson Blithe said. "They are literally crashing on our couches overnight. One guy is even getting his mail delivered here now."

Cup after whip-cream-capped cup, students slurped down their frappes and moaned incoherently, popping up in a frenzy at the sound of the straw sucking up air and then running back to the register for more.

"This is my life now," sophomore Danielle Cordel said, smiling down at her 22nd cup of coffee since the shop opened up Monday morning. She and her friends have actually tried to leave, but barely made it out the door before the craving struck again.

"The realization hit me that I would have to sit through an entire class period without…" Cordel waved the recorder away and covered her face with her hands. Her friends put their arms around her and lifted the crinkled straw up to her mouth for another comforting sip.

Some students have even taken to wearing camelbacks and refilling them at the machines themselves. Others have resorted to more creative means of getting the coffee in faster and more efficiently. Already, the campus police are drafting rules against such endeavors.

Professors were at a loss as to why only two or three students showed up to classes this week, until they realized the cause. Now even they have joined the masses over at Watson Library. Professor Wilbur Krauss has even traded in his desk job for one as a barista.

Krauss juggled the caramel drizzle and the cocoa powder like a pro.

"Seeing the smiling faces of students is all I ever wanted out of my job, and now I finally get to," he shouted over the crowded countertop, grinning ear to ear.

The few students and professors who are still in the classroom explained their immunity to the epidemic.

"Allergies," said freshman Bill Brokenhull.

"The Starbucks they've been promising for, what, like a year?" scoffed senior Aaron Hemlob. "Propaganda, straight-up, falsified propaganda."

"Wait, we have a Starbucks?" said every other person that was interviewed, before rushing out of the room in a whirlwind.

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Graduating from morality

Emily Fontenot
Editor-in-Chief

"Pat yourself on the back and put on a cap and gown, because you've graduated from morality into a more empowering state of being."

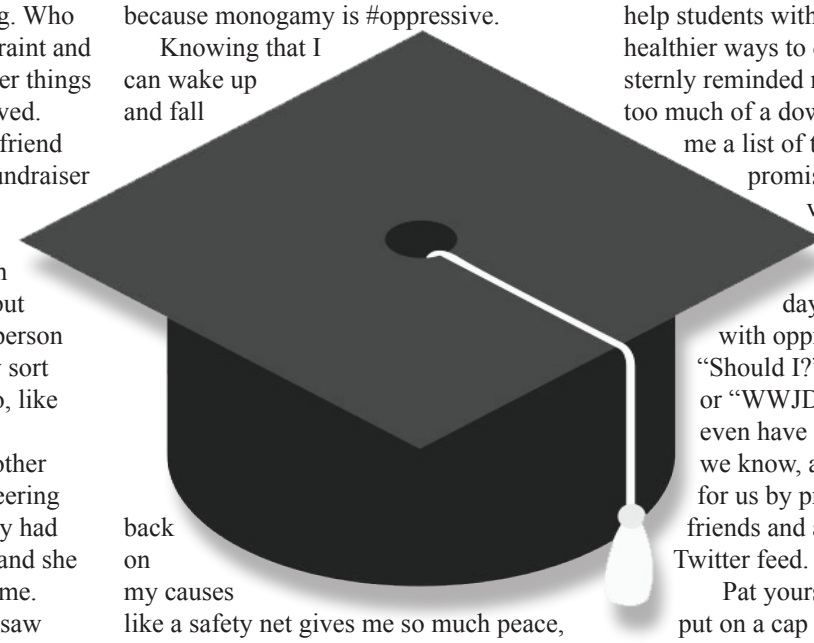
Congratulations, friends. We've finally done it. I can look around at the faces of my peers and feel secure knowing that, at last, the majority are in the right. It's such a comforting thought knowing you all are voting for Bernie Sanders, reading the same articles and finding the same things oppressive at the exact same moments as I am.

What's even better is that morality has gotten so beautifully simple. No use fussing over the grey areas or spending all that burdensome time self-reflecting. Who needs outdated values like self-restraint and commitment when you've got bigger things to deal with? Finally, we have evolved.

Take me, for example. My best friend Destiny slipped up last week at a fundraiser for positive body image on campus and spilled the beans about my embarrassing panic attack in speech class that day. I was almost upset, but then I remembered how good of a person Destiny is and how that trumps any sort of less impactful thing she could do, like denting my reputation.

Take another time, at Vic's the other day. Some friends of mine were sneering at this ex-friend of theirs – who they had collectively decided was terrible – and she quickly walked back outside in shame. I almost said something, but then I saw their pink buttons that read, "Stand for the Cure," and remembered. I just sighed in sweet relief that we had evolved past things like confrontation for those fighting the good fight.

It has been so great, too, to just go out and do what feels right in the moment, to push off my mistakes at work on the quiet girl because she'll never be the wiser, or to go home with a different guy than my boyfriend once in a while when he's away, because monogamy is #oppressive.



Knowing that I can wake up and fall back on my causes like a safety net gives me so much peace, no need to ponder my morality or that foreboding sense of meaninglessness. And the great thing is we don't live in delusion like those religious bigots, because we're completely aware of our authentic emotions and bodily desires. They just all happen to align! It's truly magical.

Yesterday I really goofed, and I'm so glad my friend Tara corrected me. I was about to suggest starting a Coping Better organization at my sorority meeting, to help students with various addictions find healthier ways to deal with life, when Tara sternly reminded me that it would be far too much of a downer. She graciously gave me a list of the trending causes and promised to send me an updated version weekly.

We've come a long way from the days of having to deal with oppressive thoughts like "Should I?", "Where's the line?" or "WWJD?" We millennials don't even have to wonder what's right; we know, and it's neatly written out for us by professors, extroverted friends and any given celebrity Twitter feed.

Pat yourself on the back and put on a cap and gown, because you've graduated from morality into a more empowering state of being. Never again will you suffer through the pain of hurting or disappointing anyone, including yourself, because you know – we all know – that we are good people.

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Joshua Fontenot stays positive simply by using the words “good vibes” to fix any problem that might arise and by shutting problematic people in his life. *Photo by Steven Sheerin*

Good vibes only

JOSHUA FONTENOT
Staff Writer

With all the negativity inhabiting the world, it is almost impossible to stay positive.

No one ever stopped Kony, Donald Trump is currently in the running for president, and apparently climate change is real? To all of this I have one thing to say: good vibes.

As an unoriginal member of the good vibes movement, I think that it is important to tell everyone to just be positive and look at the bright side of things even if mental illness is running ramped on their existence. The fact of the matter is, if you want to be positive and happy, you will be. There is nothing to it.

Good vibes are something I recently came across after seeing someone say it on the Internet once. It has been a hit ever since.

This new life mantra has reached inside of me and pulled out a person I never knew existed, which is probably because that person did not truly exist until I saw my friend Claire start dressing as a hippy and shouting good vibes from the window of the Mercedes her parents bought her last week.

The positivity in this world is truly amazing and, if you send it out, any situation can be resolved. If you don't believe me, just try it.

Not going to make rent this month? Good Vibes. Your parents cut you off and you're about to lose your car? Good Vibes. Your boyfriend cheated on you with Becky with the good hair? Good Vibes. It's honestly as easy as that. If you put it in the hands of the vibes, all will be taken care of.

> “The fact of the matter is, if you want to be positive and happy, you will be.”

Kick every single person out of your life that says anything that does not benefit you personally. They are only holding you back and bringing negativity into your life. You cannot spread good vibes if you have a depressed friend, a sister that had a bad day at school or even a dog that whines just a little too much... cut them out.

If someone says they are going through a hard time on your Facebook feed and ask for prayers, tell them that you do not pray but you will send them good vibes. They will love it, I promise.

As I'm talking to you about this revelation, I realized that I left my stove on at home so send me good vibes so that it can be taken care of, please and thank you.

I hope that you will all let good vibes in and pretend that all of the hardships in life actually don't exist. You are the only thing holding yourself back — remember that.

Budget cuts finally hit sports

Putting the ‘lady’ back in Lady Demons

CASSIE BRISCOE
Copy Editor

In this day and age, it seems women have strayed away from their duty to be ladylike while playing their respective sports. But in 2016, we’re bringing the ‘lady’ back to NSU athletics.

New rules for the game of soccer will be applied here at NSU. These changes include wearing dresses instead of jerseys, asking permission for the ball before just taking it and, lastly, no more running.

The no running rule is simple. Running makes you sweat. Sweating is unladylike, makes women smell like men and forces women beyond their natural physical capabilities — frankly, it’s just cruel.

Senior soccer player Shelby Balmer is very happy about the changes. After hearing the news, her immediate response was to go shopping for her new game uniform.

“Since we’re lady demons, I tried to stick to the color pink as best as I could,” she said. “Also, the bigger the better, right?”

Balmer was specifically on the lookout for southern bell dresses, ones with a high-comfort-level but, more importantly, ones that flatter her physique.

There are many ways that women can still abide by the lady code while playing soccer. One is showing off a little something-something for the boys — nothing too obvious, of course. They are advised to shoot for more Audrey Hepburn and less Marilyn Monroe, as traditional southern ladies should.

A cute ponytail, nail polish and a flick of mascara alone would beef up the number of male viewers significantly, a recent university marketing study here at NSU has found. The study also shows high discomfort levels currently among NSU men with the sight of women struggling on the field. More than once this year the referees have had to restrain some noble gentlemen in the stands from rushing out on the field to prevent the women from over-exerting themselves.

The most influential factor of all to this movement has to be the mathematics involved in the rising popularity of “lady” soccer. It’s a simple equation: sports plus boobs equals male attendance. I guess it’s time to throw the comfort of a sports bra out the window as well and just let nature have its way. After all, no one would actually want to watch girls play a sport for their skill when they could just as easily watch the guys.

A recent poll by Soccer Knockers concluded that the number of female soccer player participants would increase by 239 percent if dresses became the normal uniform for lady athletes.

Since beauty is obviously more important than talent or skill, it’s strange that dresses were not brought into play earlier. Women’s sports teams have nothing to do with toughness, grit or intimidation anyway. It’s really just about having make-up that will not smudge, using enough hair spray to ensure minimal movement and pulling-off bright red lipstick to show off the pearly whites.

So if you’re a young girl and soccer is a sport you’d like to try, then head over to the mall and purchase some ladylike dresses. And always remember: If you’re not sweating, you’re doing it just right.

“Sports plus boobs equals male attendance.”



In addition to the new skirts and lady code, female athletes are now required to act “prissy in pink.”
Photo by Alec Horton

New rules for womens’ sports teams:
- No running
- No sweating
- Wear pink
- C cup boobs or larger



Keepin' it Current Servin' up Sauce

Hey guys, there's still time! Application deadlines have been extended to April 29. So come and grab one while you can!

Photographers
Graphics Designers
Videographers

Editors
Brand Reps.
Writers

Apply for a scholarship position and...
Update your resumé, meet cool people and stick it to the man!

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